FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 APRIL 1985

Sudan

A post in the new government has been reserved for southern rebel leader John Garang, Armed Forces Commander General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab announced at a news conference reported by AFP. He also disclosed that he has telephoned Garang to make arrangements for a meeting to discuss the southern problem, according to Omdurman radio. Meanwhile, as contacts continued for the formation of a government, representatives of Sudanese political parties in London spoke of "deep-seated differences" between unions and parties over the composition of the new cabinet, KUNA noted.

As for foreign affairs, Siwar al-Dhahab stated during his news conference that he has exchanged messages with Soviet, Ethiopian, and Libyan leaders to improve relations which "deteriorated" under the previous regime, Omdurman radio reported. He said Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's response was "positive," according to AFP.

Israel

Arriving in Cairo, Minister 'Ezer Weizman said his discussions would include the return of the Egyptian envoy to Israel, the Tabah problem, the Jordanian-PLO accord, and U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's mission, MENA reported. As for the possible summit meeting between Peres and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, Jerusalem radio reported that the two leaders recently exchanged messages in this regard.

PLO Affairs

The PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Central Committee began a session of joint meetings in Baghdad under Yasir 'Arafat's chairmanship, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. The discussions focused on southern Lebanon and recent political developments, including U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's tour.

A Riyadh radio commentary said the current PLO meetings in Baghdad are particularly important because of current diplomatic developments including Murphy's tour, which "observers" regard as the beginning of a U.S. move to deal "in a practical way" with the recent developments affecting the Palestinian issue.

The Abu Dhabi paper *AL-ITTIHAD* contended that the PLO and Jordan have not yet agreed on the names of Palestinian representatives for a joint delegation. The paper, which cited Palestinian sources, also said that during 'Arafat's recent talks in Amman, he was assured by Jordanian officials that if a Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement takes place it will be coordinated with the PLO.

Lebanon

The Phalangist Lebanese Forces continued to shell residential areas in Sidon despite the arrival in the city of a Lebanese Army unit, according to reports by Beirut radio. Security sources cited by the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio spoke of a bombardment with fragmentation and phosphorous shells that caused over 40 casualties. Nevertheless, a Lebanese Forces official cited by AFP subsequently announced that the Christian Militia had begun withdrawing men and artillery from the area as a good-will gesture aimed at ending the fighting. A Lebanese Forces Executive Committee statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio expressed "surprise" at Prime Minister Rashid Karami's statements holding the Lebanese Forces responsible for the fighting in Sidon. The statement accused Palestinian and Muslim groups of starting the violence and obstructing the Lebanese Army's deployment.

Meanwhile, Israeli Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche reaffirmed Israel's willingness to resume negotiations with Lebanon on security arrangements following the IDF's withdrawal, Jerusalem radio noted.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad, in a speech to a youth federation conference broadcast by Damascus television, praised the example set by the "martyrs" of the Lebanese national resistance, "until it defeats the forces of aggression." As for the Palestinians, Al-Asad expressed confidence that they will "sever the hand that signs the writ of capitulation."

Tunisia

As a result of a 10-11 April judicial strike, Justice Minister Ridha Ben 'Ali announced in a statement carried by Tunis radio that President Habib Bourguiba had dissolved the Society of Young Judges. Additionally, he suspended a group of young judges from the bench and referred them to a "disciplinary council."

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'Arafat 'Implicitly' Rejects Mubarak Proposals

NC131145 Paris AFP in English 1130 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, April 13 (AFP) — PLO Leader Yasir 'Arafat has implicitly rejected Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's proposals for four-party negotiations aimed at solving the Palestinian problem, the magazine *UKTUBAR* said today. The Egyptian proposal was for a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to have talks with the United States before opening negotiations with Israel. In an interview published here today by *UKTUBAR*, an Arabic-language monthly, Mr. 'Arafat said the Palestine Liberation Organisation could not support Mr. Mubarak's peace initiative and renewed his call for an international conference. He recalled that the agreement signed in Amman between Jordan and the PLO on February 11 envisaged the holding of an international conference involving all concerned parties, including the PLO and the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. He said "common Arab action" was needed to realise this agreement and stressed the need for talks including all five permanent Security Council members.

Reliable sources said that in talks in Amman, Jordan and the PLO had decided to appoint common delegations to visit the five governments and certain Arab countries to explain the political action resulting from the Amman accord. He said the PLO must convince the Americans of the need to hold an international conference, while voicing scepticism about the U.S. Administration. He also indicated his concern at the deteriorating situation in Sidon, in southern Lebanon, by accusing General Antoine Lahd, head of the Israeli-backed Army of South Lebanon, and Samir Ja'ja', leader of the breakway Christian militia of "collusion with Israel."

PLO's Al-Hasan on Palestinian-U.S. Meeting

NC152036 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Amman, 15 Apr (MENA) — Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, has declared that the recent Jordanian-Palestinian talks in Amman between Jordanian King Husayn and 'Arafat have established three basic principles which will represent the basis for any future efforts.

Hani al-Hasan pointed out that these principles are the following: no direct negotiations with Israel; the inclusion of the USSR as a principal party in any settlement framework; and recognition that the Amman agreement gives momentum to accelerate the implementation of the Fes resolutions.

In an exclusive interview with MENA, Hani al-Hasan affirmed that the Arabs must support these principles. Soon, he added, efforts will be made on the Arab level to work out a Jordanian-Palestinian formula with Arab participation to be submitted at the next Arab summit for approval.

Hani al-Hasan expressed the PLO's readiness to accept any Arab concept which aimed to develop a mechanism of action, provided the Jordanians and Palestinians would be partners in any proposed development. He added: From this premise, we have blessed the Cabinet of Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i for its ability to play a major role in promoting Arab solidarity, particularly with Syria, outlining Syria's role in maintaining the cohesion of the eastern front, and preventing Israel from further collapsing the situation on the Lebanese front.

Hani al-Hasan urged Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to understand the Palestinian situation. The meeting of the PLO Executive Committee and Fatah's Central Committee in Baghdad, he pointed out, is not meant to be against Syria or to take a stand against it.

Hani al-Hasan then dealt with the U.S. attitude toward the PLO in light of the visit by Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, to the region. He said that there is progress in the U.S. stand. This has been illustrated by a visit which the head of the U.S. Congressional delegation paid to Yasir 'Arafat's residence in Amman during the delegation's recent visit there. Al-Hasan said that the atmosphere which prevailed during this meeting confirms for the first time that it is Israel which rejects the PLO. The delegation, he added, did not frankly say that the United States rejects the PLO.

He pointed out that the main objective of this meeting was to enable the U.S. side to know how serious the Palestinians are in regard to their efforts toward achieving a just and all-embracing solution to the Middle East problem.

Hani al-Hasan said that this was the first time that a semi-official U.S. team conducted a dialogue with the PLO chairman on future moves.

Hani al-Hasan later is to leave for Baghdad. He will take with him the results of Murphy's talks with Jordanian officials and present them at the meeting of the PLO Executive Committee and Fatah's Central Committee, which began in Baghdad today.

Radio Monte Carlo Interview

JN141947 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1740 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Interview with Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser, by Fu'ad Na'im, Monte Carlo radio correspondent in Amman on 13 April — recorded]

[Text] [Na'im] Brother Hani al-Hasan, you and Yasir 'Arafat held intensive talks with the Jordanian leaders the last few days. These talks preceded Richard Murphy's visit to Amman. Did you reach an agreement with the Jordanian leaders on the names of the Palestinian figures whom Murphy may meet in Amman?

[Al-Hasan] The recent meeting with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, with the Jordanian prime minister, and with His Majesty King Husayn was aimed first of all to (?confirm) the termination of a stage, that of finalizing the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement in accordance with a formula on which an agreement has been reached [words indistinct]. We discussed how to move to the implementation stage of this agreement. The U.S. side is only one of the issues of this agreement, because there is also the USSR and the other permanent UN Security Council members.

After the formation of the new government, which is undoubtedly a political government with clear-cut characteristics, it was necessary to reach an agreement on basic issues to [word indistinct] these matters. We reached agreement on three basic points for our moves. The first point is that there is no possibility for any direct negotiations with the Israelis. The second point is that no political move can be accepted if the USSR does not participate in it in order to seek a solution to the Middle East issue. The third point is that the Jordanian- Palestinian agreement, which is a (?framework) for activating Fes, constitutes our joint understanding of the operation of administering the political struggle in the region. We decided to move to the stage of implementation. That is why we agreed to send Jordanian-Palestinian joint delegations to the five permanent UN Security Council member countries. Before this, we sent a joint delegation comprising PLO Executive Committee members and members from the Jordanian-Palestinian government [as heard]. The members of this delegation left for Algeria to explain this joint understanding, as well as its details to the Algerian national government to enable President Chadli Bendjedid to be in the picture during his visit to the United States that will begin in a few days. We also asked that a joint delegation leave for the USSR, the PRC, France, and the United Kingdom.

In order to tackle the situation with the five permanent countries, the U.S. stand, which will be conveyed by Murphy during his visit to Amman which began today, has also been studied. Therefore, Murphy will listen today to the Jordanian-Palestinian joint viewpoint through Jordan, a viewpoint that we have crystallized in our meetings. There are U.S. ideas which have been submitted, and we, as a democratic people, cannot make any decision without a priordecision by the legitimate PLO institutions. That is why we called for a joint meeting in Baghdad between the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee. During this meeting, we will prepare our answers to what Murphy may submit to the Jordanian Government and to his ideas on how to deal with the Palestinian cause and with the PLO.

[Na'im] Does this mean that no agreement has been reached on the names of the Palestinian figures who are not affiliated to the PLO and whom Murphy may meet in Amman?

[Al-Hasan] This topic has not been discussed as yet because we cannot move to details before any decision is made by the legitimate PLO institutions. Therefore, all that has been said about this topic is mere rumor. The point that I would like to stress is that we cannot accept anyone saying that some Palestinian thing must take place and that it must take place outside the PLO framework. I believe that Murphy realizes this stand very well. I believe that [word indistinct] delegation which met with Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] under Congressman Obey — a meeting that was set up more than 2 weeks ago — was not a coincidence. It is a sign that we are on our way toward removing the U.S. rejection concerning the question of Palestinian representation.

[Na'im] Do you expect specific answers in this sphere from Murphy and will you discuss them during the forthcoming PLO Executive Committee meeting in Baghdad?

[Al-Hasan] We timed our meeting after Murphy's arrival in Jordan for two reasons. The first is that we want to obtain official stands and not stands through mediators. What Murphy will tell the Jordanian Government will be official. The second reason is that we want to know the details of the plan Murphy will submit so that we can discuss an integrated U.S. paper and concept submitted through Jordan.

Voice of PLO Interviews Fatah's Nabil 'Amr

JN160858 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1557 GMT 15 Apr 85

["Part I" of interview with Fatah Revolutionary Council member Nabil 'Amr by an unidentified PLO radio reporter — date and place not given; recorded]

[Excerpts] [Unidentified reporter] The PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee are expected to meet in Iraq. Is there a connection between this meeting and the meetings and talks brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] held in Amman?

['Amr] Definitely there is a connection between this meeting and the talks Brother Abu 'Ammar held in Jordan with King Husayn and his new Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i. These meetings are also intended to comprehensively study the political situation on the regional level, the situation in the occupied territories, and the developments of the Palestinian-Jordanian relationship as usually happens during our leadership's meetings.

It might be useful in this regard to shed some light on Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to Jordan. Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to Amman had two purposes. The first purpose was to meet with His Majesty King Husayn and senior Jordanian officials and the second was to meet with the U.S. Congressmen, who came on a fact-finding mission to probe the opinions and stands of all parties concerned with the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the PLO.

On the level of meetings with the Jordanian officials, several political questions that might sometimes appear ambiguous have been clarified. The bases on which the joint Jordanian-Palestinian political move depends have been clarified. These bases, as we know, are cited in the agreement. However, emphasizing these bases would be useful in all cases. There is an agreement that there could be no solution except through an international conference. There is an agreement htat there should be no unilateral solution or direct negotiations with the Israeli enemy under any circumstances whatsoever. There was also an agreement that we should move on the Arab and international levels in order to clarify the bases and horizons of this agreement, to reassure those who fear it, and to specify the mechanism of action. These topics were discussed between Brother Abu 'Ammar and His Majesty King Husayn.

A first meeting was also held with new Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, who stressed that his government is fully committed to this agreement which constitutes a political background for the Jordanian Government's activity. It was important for us to become acquainted with the political trend of the new Jordanian Government. This is what happened during the lengthy meeting between Brother Abu 'Ammar and His Excellency Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i. This is on the level of official talks with Jordanian officials.

I have said that the visit had two purposes. The second purpose was to meet with the U.S. Congressional team. In fact, this meeting had some concomitants. For instance, three of the 6-member congressional delegation refused to meet with Brother Abu 'Ammar. We were officially told that only three congressmen led by Obey would meet with Abu 'Ammar. We were surprised to find out that five congressmen came to the meeting. This means that two of those that did not want to meet with Abu 'Ammar had changed their minds. The congressmen also refused to be photographed during the meeting. This, too, was surprising to us. I told the reporters who were waiting to photograph the meeting that apparently we are more civilized than the Americans and that we had no objection to reporters photographing or even attending part of the meeting. However, the U.S. delegation refused to be photographed although all these things are mere formalities.

Brother Abu 'Ammar comprehensively reviewed the Palestinian stand to the congressmen. The most prominent points stressed during the meeting was the fact that as a Palestinian people we do not trust the United States because it ignores the Palestinian people's rights and the PLO. It even contributes to all the Palestinian people's tragedies, particularly the tragedy in Lebanon when the Israeli aggression was launched according to a U.S. decision and this [words indistinct]. Brother Abu 'Ammar said: We [words indistinct] for peace, but you should not think that we need any peace. We need a lasting and just peace in the region, based on the Palestinian people's national legitimate rights, including their right to repatriation, self-determination, and establishment of an independent state that will later be united confederally with Jordan.

Specifically, it was a meeting in which Brother Abu 'Ammar told the Americans: In the past you tried to ignore the PLO and the Palestinian people. One day 4 or 5 years ago, Brzezinski said good-bye to the PLO. You (?mobilized] all the Israeli Army to end the PLO in Lebanon. Nevertheless, the PLO returned once again to speak for the Palestinian people. We lost and were exhausted by the plot, but we managed within a short time to reestablish our presence and to build our institutions. Abu 'Ammar also said: I challenge your ability to establish peace in this region on the basis of the Palestinian people's national legitimate rights and on the basis that the PLO is the Palestinian people's sole representative. They recorded every detail and showed understanding of the Palestinian viewpoint. They promised — and this is their duty — to submit a report on this meeting to the U.S. Administration.

Another notworthy subject is the fact that while in Jordan Brother Abu 'Ammar met with popular delegations. He visited the Al-Wahdat camp and met with some of the Palestinian camps' representatives there. He listened to them and talked to them about the political situation. He also received popular delegations at the Guest Palace and talked to them for 3 hours about all aspects of the political situation. He put our brothers and kinfolk in Jordan in the picture of this situation and asserted to them that the PLO will remain loyal to the Palestinian people's interests and objectives. He also emphasized to them what he had emphasized to the congressmen.

He told the congressmen — as this subject is connected with the popular stand: A short while ago I was in the Al-Wahdat camp where I met with a sector of the Palestinian people. I would like to tell you something which I hope you will communicate to the U.S. Administration. This is that Yasir 'Arafat, who pins hopes on peace in the region, cannot be strong, convincing, or effective unless he meets his people's demands in the first place. 'Arafat cannot offer facilities for the sake of peace if these facilities clash with the Palestinian people's inalienable rights. He also told them: If you hope that I will cooperate for peace, my people must regain their homeland, and I hope that this is clear. He spoke in this spirit. The visit was over and I can describe it as a successful and effective visit. Brother Abu 'Ammar is now briefing the Palestinian leadership on the results of this visit in order to define the next steps accordingly.

[Reporter] Brother Nabil 'Amr, Fatah Revolutionary Council member: The observer who follows up the rapid developments in the Palestinian arena beginning with the new Jordanian Government and ending with brother leader Abu 'Ammar's surprise visit to Amman and the convocation of the PLO Executive Committee and Fatah Central Committee meetings, asks whether these successive events herald a new political change in the Palestinian arena.

['Amr] No. There is no political change in the dramatic sense of the word and the things you mentioned are not new. This is the natural course of events. Let me clarify one point. Abu 'Ammar's visit to Amman was not a surprise visit. It was arranged but was postponed several times. Once it was postponed because Brother Abu 'Ammar was sick. There were other reasons, too, such as the meetings of the Fatah Revolutionary Council.

[Reporter] Did it have anything to do with the formation of a new government in Jordan?

['Amr] No, not at all. The visit was scheduled before the new government was formed. It was decided that after the agreement had been signed, Brother Abu 'Ammar would pay several visits to Jordan. Even his meeting with the congressmen was arranged over 1 month ago. Thus, it was not a surprise visit nor was it paid merely because of the new Cabinet. We in the PLO — and this is natural — do not believe that the formation of a new Jordanian Cabinet concerns us directly. This is a domestic Jordanian affair. There are principles which govern our relationship with Jordan.

[Reporter] Press analyses are sometimes exaggerated. Papers linked Abu 'Ammar's visit to Amman with the new Cabinet, indicating that this Cabinet under Zayd al-Rifa'i will restore ties with Syria. Some went as far as saying that these ties will be at the expense of the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship. What is your answer?

['Amr] We hope that there will be a good Syrian-Jordanian relationship. We have absolutely no sensitivities about this relationship. Moreover, we do not consider ourselves the victims of any relationship. We were the first to call for a Palestinian-Syrian-Jordanian relationship. We were also the first to call for

PLO-Syrian relations on bases that are almost the same as those on which we establish our relationship with our brothers in Jordan and the other Arab brothers.

[Reporter] Brother Nabil, as part of the attempts to cast doubt on the PLO's political line, some newspapers claim either tendentiously or inadvertently that the PLO has authorized Jordan to speak on its behalf and that a non-PLO Palestinian delegation will be formed. Could you reply to these claims?

['Amr] The Palestinian-Jordanian agreement answered this question. It says no authorization. More clearly, Jordan neither wants authorization nor are we ready to give such an authorization. Moreover, there could be no solution through authorization. This subject is settled and will continue to be so for the Palestinian people firstly and for the whole world secondly. Regarding the delegation, we have an option that was communciated to our brothers in Jordan; namely, that there be a joint Arab delegation, including the PLO as well as the other sides. The PLO is the decisionmaker on Palestinian affairs and on the formation of the Palestinian delegation. It is the side that decides and any delegation that is not approved by the PLO will not be recognized. Moreover, we do not have to talk further about this point now. Talk about a delegation can be discussed within the framework of the accepted bases. This subject can be discussed in detail when there is a negotiating table at which the negotiators can sit. Why do we anticipate events and impose on the Palestinian arena a sharp argument about a subject that is not vital at present. We must now stick to the accepted bases. The details will follow in time.

The accepted bases say that the PLO is the Palestinian people's sole representative. This is a basis which we must discuss and uphold in all circumstances. The PLO is the decisionmaker regarding the Palestine question. This is also one of the bases. Rejecting Resolution 242 is also one of the bases. Rejection of the Reagan plan is also one of the bases. We adhere to these bases, talk about them, and declare them all the time. When we agree that the PLO is the sole representative and the decisionmaker, the subject of how the delegation is formed becomes part of the details that can be discussed in due course.

PLO Commentary on Mideast Peace Prospects

JN102045 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1643 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The momentum started by Arab efforts in recent months to achieve a settlement of the Middle East crisis has certainly diminished. Everyone agrees that this is due to the cool response of the United States and Israel.

Of course, it is not easy to say that everything is over concerning that Arab move. This is because contacts are still going on, some scheduled activities are still to take place, and certain developments have not yet taken their full course. All of these contacts, activities, and developments are bound to have an effect on the final results of the aforementioned Arab efforts. Observers point out that the area will witness several developments in the very near future that will have an obvious impact on the Middle East situation in the next phase. These developments are:

1. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's tour of the area. This tour, which will begin next week, may be followed by a tour by Secretary Shultz himself. The United States hopes that both tours will include Damascus.

2. The complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from southern Lebanon or the redeployment of these forces within a period that should not take more than a few weeks.

3. High-level Egyptian-Israeli contacts, including Minister Weizman's announced visit to Cairo. We should also include here the call for the resumption of talks between the Egyptian and Israeli sides on Tabah and other outstanding issues.

All of these future developments give the impression that the settlement process has not vanished, although the initial momentum has somewhat diminished. However, this impression can quickly lose its effect when we consider the negotiation situation that might result from the aforementioned developments. The lukewarm U.S. response to the earlier Arab efforts has not changed. The sparse U.S. statements have made no secret of the fact that both Murphy, and later Shultz, will only bring with them the stands that the Arab leaders heard during their visits to Washington. These stands are far less than the minimum level of the very modest Arab ambitions.

There is no doubt that the redeployment of Israeli forces in southern Lebanon, including withdrawal from most parts of that area, will result in a more confortable position for the enemy. The same applies to the resumption of talks on Tabah and other outstanding problems between Israel and Egypt. Both problems — southern Lebanon and Egyptian-Israeli relations — presently constitute pressure cards in the Arabs' favor. But once the enemy has succeeded in reducing the pressure of these two problems, its urge to accept any Arab demands in a settlement deal will diminish considerably. Such a situation will also ease Israel's economic crisis, which presently constitutes another motive for peace. The withdrawal from Lebanon will remove a major economic burden on the country's treasury. In fact, the completion of the withdrawal will be a major factor in prompting a decision by Washington to grant additional aid to Israel amounting to $1.5 billion. This is what the Department of State meant when it announced recently that the United States will decide on additional emergency aid in 6 weeks.

Unfortunately, there is no indication of an improvement in the Arab negotiating stand. In fact, the Arabs are losing their pressure cards without trying to hold them close or replace them. The Arabs cannot by their current move influence the strategic alliance between the United States and Israel — an alliance that has reached the point where the United States has invited Israel to contribute to the star wars program. If this course continues — and there is no indication now that it will change — what has happened in recent months and what will happen in the next phase will lead only to another stalemate in the Middle East. Experience has taught us that such a situation is never in the interest of the Arab side.

Voice of PLO on Syrian 'Connivance' in Lebanon

JN160801 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1540 GMT 15 Apr 85

[News analysis]

[Text] There have been many political and military developments in the Lebanese arena. These developments have completely exposed the Damascus rulers and their empty slogans. The Syrian rulers have observed silence over the Zionist invasion of Lebanon in 1982. They left the Palestinian resistance alone to wage a fierce 3-month war against the Zionist Army. The Damascus rulers had also connived with the fascist Phalangists to deal a blow to the Palestinian revolution in 1976 and to destroy the Tal al-Za'tar camp. Today, we are watching another chapter of the Damascus rulers' crimes against the Lebanese arena itself this time. They connived with the same fascist Phalangists to peddle the conspiracy of partitioning Lebanon on factional bases. This conspiracy was revealed by Brzezinski right afte the resistance's departure from Beirut when he said "good-bye PLO," and when he said that it was time to implement the Syrian-Israeli plan to partition Lebanon, whereby the Syrians will take northern Lebanon while the Israelis will take southern Lebanon. In his book *The Blood of Abraham* Carter says that there are common denominators between Israelis and Syrians, and that this qualifies them to peddle any solution in the region. He said that the Israelis support partitioning Lebanon, as do the Syrians, and the Israelis are hostile to the PLO just as the Syrians are. Peres himself said that the Syrians have practically proved that they are most sincere in adhering to any agreement reached between the Syrian and Israeli sides. This is confirmed by the situation on the ground — the Golan Heights are calm and no bullet has been fired from the Golan Heights since 1973.

Despite the Damascus rulers' black criminal record against the Palestinian revolution, we are astonished at the series of the hideous crimes that are being carried out in southern Lebanon. These crimes aim to implement the conspiracy of partitioning Lebanon. The brutal Phalangist-Zionist shelling, which has entered its second month, has resulted in the killing and wounding of hundreds of citizens, and the expulsion of no less than 120,000 Palestinians and Lebanese — this brutal devastating shelling is taking place amid the Syrian silence. Moreover, this shelling is the biggest popular trial of the Damascus rulers before the eyes of the masses, because a whole month's silence has the characteristics of connivance. This shelling is also taking place in accordance with premeditated arrangements and agreements. The most important of these agreements is the Al-Asad-Murphy agreement, or what can be called the new Camp Murphy, in whose light we are watching the chapters of the scenario that is taking place in southern Lebanon.

The Zionist forces are withdrawing from southern Lebanon at the same time the enemy is seeking to change the demographic features of southern Lebanon. The enemy seeks to expel Muslims from southern Lebanon and bring in Christians in order to place them in the border area under the leadership of Lahd and Ja'ja'. This is something that Syria and the Zionist entity have already agreed upon. It has been agreed that Syria will act freely and unilaterally in northern Lebanon, while the enemy will have a free hand in southern Lebanon. This explains the Syrian silence and connivance toward what is taking place in southern Lebanon. However, this plot will not pass without resistance, because all the Arab Lebanese people will move against Syria and the Zionist entity. Moreover, this Zionist-Syrian-Phalangist plot will be the straw that breaks the Syrian regime's back, because it exposes its slogans and shameful stands. We have complete confidence in the abilities of the popular alliance between the Lebanese and Palestinians to foil the conspiracy of factional partition, to destroy the new Camp Murphy, and to confirm Lebanon's unity, Arabism, and militant identity.

AL-KHALIJ Notes Alliance Statement on Amman Accord

GF151330 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 15 Apr 85 P 1

["Exclusive" report from Damascus]

[Text] In a statement issued yesterday, the Palestinian Democratic Alliance attacked the formation of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation agreed upon by Yasir 'Arafat during his discussions with King Husayn. It considered that this formation will accomplish the U.S.-Israeli goal of excluding the PLO, abolishing its role, and substituting it with capitulationist elements which totally support Jordanian rule with the approval and connivance of the official leadership of the PLO and the Fatah movement. The Alliance has called for quick action to convene a comprehensive national meeting to include representatives of the national powers, figures, institutions, organizations, and the members of the PNC so as to confront the Amman agreement.

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives Omani Information Delegation

GF150828 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0750 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Manama, 15 Apr (WAKH) — The Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received here today the Omani information delegation, headed by Hamad ibn Muhammad al-Rashidi, general director of information in the Sultanate of Oman. The delegation will cover Sultan Qabus' official visit to Bahrain, which begins tomorrow.

His highness welcomed the Omani delegation and said that Bahrain's Government and people are proud of Sultan Qabus' visit to Bahrain. His highness the amir hailed the intimate ties that link the two countries and stressed the importance of this visit and its constructive and positive results for the good of the two peoples.

His highness said that the visit by his majesty the sultan of Oman will have positive effects within the framework of the continuous consultations among the GCC states in preparation for the sixth GCC summit conference which will be held in Muscat next November.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah; Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah; Information Minister Tariq 'Abd al-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad; and Ahmad al-Shuruqi, chief of the Public Relations and Press Journalism Department at the Information Ministry.

Oman's Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id Visits Manama

GF160848 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 16 Apr (WAKH) — His Majesty Sultan of Oman Qabus ibn Sa'id arrived in Manama today on a 3-day official visit at the invitation of Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah.

Upon his arrival at Bahrain International Airport, His Majesty Sultan Qabus was received by His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah. His Majesty the Sultan of Oman was also received by Bahraini Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, heir apparent and Commander in Chief of Bahrain Defense Force His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, ministers, senior officials, and members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Bahrain.

His majesty is accompanied by a senior delegation that includes Deputy Prime Minister for Legal Affairs Fahd ibn Mahmud, Education and Youth Affairs Minister Yahya ibn Mahfuz al-Mundhari, Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Rawwas, and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf ibn 'Alawi 'Abdallah.

He is also accompanied by the deputy chief of the court for protocol affairs, Sayf ibn Su'ud, and Defense Ministry Under Secretary Major General Hasan ibn Ihsan.

Foreign Minister Views Tunisian Ties, Gulf Issues

PM121451 Tunis L'ACTION in French 29 Mar 85 p 9

[Interview with Bahraini Foreign Minister Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah by Nefissa Ben Said in Bahrain — date not given]

[Excerpt][Ben Said] Your Excellency, allow me first to thank you for being so kind as to devote some of your valuable time to this interview. Sir, how do you expect Tunisian-Bahraini relations to develop following the bilateral agreements, and the week of fraternity between the two countries?

[Al Khalifah] The quality of Tunisian-Bahraini relations is a source of great satisfaction, especially in this relatively short period of time when exchanges between the states and peoples have developed considerably.

Since its independence, the State of Bahrain has constantly extended the sphere of its cooperation with all the Arab countries, and primarily with Tunisia. We have jointly established preferential relations in all spheres. The recent agreements signed by the two countries demonstrate this since they relate to trade in many different sectors, with a meeting between our respective trade delegations, and holding a week of friendship which enabled our country to find out about Tunisian achievements, especially in the industrial sphere. This spirit of solidarity and this impetus, which strengthen our political, economic, and social relations, should be praised and encouraged. Moreover the common desire to consolidate and extend this fruitful cooperation takes practical form in the annual meetings of the Tunisian-Bahraini joint commission; During these meetings ways of giving our relations a permanent and in-depth character are examined.

[Ben Said] The Gulf Cooperation Council has made efforts to end the Iranian-Iraqi conflict. Sir, following the recent escalation are there new moves in Arab mediation?

[Al Khalifah] The Iraq-Iran war is the most serious threat to the Gulf region. Hence it is up to the Arab-Muslim world and the whole international community to end this conflict, restore peace, and preserve the integrity of the neighboring countries, without which this hotbed of tension is likely to set the whole region alight.

With regard to the mediation carried out by the Gulf Cooperation Council, in collaboration with the Islamic Conference, the United Nations, the Arab League, and the nonaligned countries, a good offices mission was sent to Iran. Unfortunately, this conciliation mission did not succeed since the Iranian positions proved unshakeable. However, we persevered, using every opportunity to persuade Iran to examine the prospects for peace, respecting the two sides.

The recent escalation is, of course, very unfortunate, and yet there is a glimmer of hope: the recent agreement accepted by the warring sides to suspend hostilities for 1 night, which they have done for the second time.

In the light of this truce, we hope that the bombing of cities will gradually stop.

[Ben Said] There is increasingly frequent talk of an Arab summit in the near future to examine two major questions: Egypt's reentry into the Arab League, and the Middle East crisis, in other words the Palestinian and Lebanese problems. Sir, how likely do you think such a summit is?

[Al Khalifah] We support this initiative and hope that this summit will be held as soon as possible. However, first the fraternal Arab countries should define the problems they would like to raise during that summit meeting so that the discussions will be fruitful and constructive and so that they also enable us to strengthen our unity and do not divide us.

In Bahrain we are constantly working with fraternal and friendly countries to reduce inter-Arab quarrels; in addition to preparing for this summit, this would help give impetus to our joint march toward an ever better future. With regard to Egypt's return to the Arab front, the decision must be made at the summit, as the first decision was. That country is dear to us and we hope it will resume its place in the Arab world, both in its own interest and in that of our whole community.

[Ben Said] Sir, how do you think American-Soviet relations will develop following the accession of the new Soviet political leadership and following Ronald Reagan's statement about opening direct negotiations with the Kremlin?

[Al Khalifah] In our view the accession of the new Soviet political leadership is an important step, likely to give new dynamism to that country's political life, especially since the Soviet Union has not experienced such an event for a long time.

In addition, it should be pointed out that this new leadership had previously established contacts with Western nations like Britain for instance: This suggests that it may try to ease tension, and this is what matters to us.

We can also assume that American-Soviet relations will now be given additional impetus, and we hope that this new dynamism will have favorable effects on peace and security in the world.

IMF Praises Bahrain's Move From Oil Dependency

GF140516 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 14 Apr 85 p 1

[Text] Bahrain's efforts to move away from an oil-dependent economy have won the praise of the International Monetary Fund. And it is the move to make Bahrain a major international financial centre and to develop export-oriented industry which IMF executive directors have singled out for praise.

"Partly as a result of those developments, the non-oil sector at present accounts for around 80 per cent of the GDP," says the IMF. More generally the growth of the economy has been brisk and increases in prices have been moderate."

Bahrain's membership of the GCC and the soon-to-be completed causeway between Bahrain and Saudi Arabia are expected to have a positive influence on future developments in the island's economy.

Although the IMF has praised Bahrain's economy strategy it pointed out that changing conditions in the international petroleum market had been reflected in a weakening of Bahrain's fiscal position. But it noted that in response to this the government had begun to introduce measure to adjust to the new circumstances by curtailing expenditure.

The IMF believes these new cost-cutting measures "represented a commendable effort" and should be implemented immediately.

KUWAIT

CSSR Foreign Minister Chnoupek Conducts Visit

Received by Amir

LD151045 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] At 0930 hours this morning his highness the amir received Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, who handed him a message from CSSR President Gustav Husak.

Thev meeting was attended by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; CSSR ambassador to Kuwait; and the Kuwaiti ambassador to the CSSR.

Talks With Foreign Minister

LD151505 Kuwait KUNA in English 1430 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, April 15 (KUNA) — Kuwait and Czech foreign ministers began official talks Monday [15 April] focussing on the Palestinian question, the Iran-Iraq war and the Lebanon crisis.

Acting premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad told KUNA after the meeting the talks also dealt with bilateral relations in detail and hailed the stand of the socialist bloc countries on the Palestinian problem.

The Czech foreign minister, Bohuslav Chnoupek arrived here Sunday night leading a ranking ministry delegation. He is scheduled to go to South Yemen at the end of his visit here.

Sheikh Sabah said that the guest had expressed his country's appreciation and admiration to the "great and constructive" role played by Kuwait toward prevailing cooperation and peace among countries in the region and world nations in general.

Chnoupek singled out Kuwait's efforts toward finding an end to the sorrowful and serious armed dispute between Iran and Iraq, Sheikh Sabah noted.

The two parties' discussion on bilateral relations showed their joint desire to boost cooperation in various fields, he said, adding that hence both sides agreed on exchanging visits and contacts between the two capitals on various levels.

The Czechoslovak chief diplomat said that his country was looking forward to the visit of H.H. the amir to Prague in response to the previous invitation addressed in this respect which the foreign minister renewed earlier today during the audience with his highness, Sheikh Sabah said.

The acting premier, on his side, welcomed the forthcoming visit of Czechoslovakia's premier to Kuwait.

Sheikh Sabah elaborated that the talks showed the two countries maintained identical views toward a number of current international questions including the Palestinian problem, the Middle East crisis, the situation in Lebanon and the Iraq-Iran war along with other issues in Europe and the Middle East which have an impact on the world peace and security.

Sheikh Sabah held a luncheon banquet at his residence in Dasman in honor of the guest and the accompanying delegates.

The Czech chief diplomat will visit Governor of Al-Ahmadi Sheikh Jabir al-'Abdallah al-Jabir Tuesday and later tour the Kuwait Oil Company's [KOC] exhibition before attending a lunch banquet held in his honor by KOC.

He is scheduled to leave for Aden Tuesday night on an official visit to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Navy Holding Exercises With Live Ammunition

LD141059 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0732 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Apr (KUNA) — It was reported here today that the Kuwaiti Naval Forces are currently holding exercises with live ammunition in Kuwaiti territorial waters.

Informed military sources told KUNA here today that these naval exercises, which come as part of their periodic exercises, are aimed at strengthening the fighting ability of the soldiers and their use of military equipment on the gunboats by using live ammunition on surface and air targets.

The sources said that these exercises will continue until the end of this week, signaling a warning to the quarters concerned and ships not to approach the exercise area.

Furthermore, joint air exercises of the Kuwaiti, Bahraini, Saudi, and Qatari Air Forces will begin here on 21 April at the Kuwaiti 'Ali al-Salim Base.

Sources pointed out that these exercises, which will use helicopters and are distinguished by advanced abilities for quick maneuvers, are aimed at ensuring the homogeneity of the units' soldiers in performing their duties and at strengthening their fighting capabilities.

The sources did not mention how long these exercises will last or in which other aircraft are likely to take part.

Press reports stated today that after a few days' exercises the Kuwaiti Naval Forces will start to use live ammunition off the Kuwaiti coast within the framework of their annual exercises. [sentence as received]

Petrochemical Projects Discussed With PRC Officials

LD151954 Kuwait KUNA in English 1800 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, April 15 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti and Chinese officials met Monday to discuss prospects for boosting joint ventures and investments in the petrochemical field.

Chinese negotiators headed by petrochemical industry Vice Minister Lin Yincai met a Kuwaiti team lead by 'Abd al-Baqi al-Nuri , managing director of Petrochemical Industries Company, an affiliate of the state-owned Kuwait Petroleum Corporation.

The Chinese official said the two sides discussed in detail prospects for building on plans for a joint Chinese-Kuwaiti-Tunisian chemical fertilizer company initialled earlier.

He said consideration was given to plans to establish a fertilizer plant in Kuwait, as well as means of attracting more Kuwaiti investment in the field to projects in China.

He added that the talks had been "very useful", and expressed enthusiasm for a forthcoming seminar in Kuwait in which officials and businessmen from various Gulf states will be briefed on investment opportunities in the People's Republic.

Al-Nuri, for his part, said the Chinese had expressed agreement in principle on participating in the Kuwait fertilizer plan project, much of whose output would be sold to China.

U.S. Position on Jordanian-PLO Delegation Examined

GF141312 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0830 GMT 14 Apr 85

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 14 Apr (WAKH) — The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* noted that Washington, which was the major obstacle during the tour of the Arab summit delegation led by the Jordanian and Moroccan monarchs, will also remain the same obstacle facing the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that intends to tour the five UN Security Council permanent members.

It said that some people in Amman and the PLO think that Washington will be more moderate in its position this time than it was toward the Fes plan which it considered very radical. It added that perhaps the new move will be launched on this basis in addition to what can be considered as rehearsal for forming the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to be accepted as a visitor to Washington. It pointed out that the delegation — the names of which are still unknown — may intend to open U.S. doors within the framework of its comprehensive tour of the other four countries that are permanent members of the UN Security Council.

The newspaper said that the major move in the task of the delegation will be toward Washington where there is a conviction that the United States is the only party capable of forcing Israel to enter a settlement on the basis of UN Resolution 242 — the exchange of land for peace.

The newspaper also added that the problem does not lie in the lack of credibility of the Arab side, but it certainly lies in the lack of credibility on the U.S. side; whenever there is a talk related to the Middle East the United States approaches the Israeli way of thinking even if we assume that the U.S. way of thinking basically does not agree with all the Israeli aggressive acts against the Arabs.

OMAN

Foreign Ministry Official on Security, PDRY Ties

GF131030 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0935 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Manama, 13 Apr (WAKH) — Sayf ibn Hamad al-Batashi, under secretary at the Omani Foreign Ministry, has emphasized that the Gulf countries' responsibility for the region's security is inevitable, otherwise the alternative is intervention in the region's affairs. "If the GCC countries' armies are not sufficiently able to repel any possible aggression, we will contact all our friends and brothers to help us," he said.

In a statement published in the weekly Bahraini newspaper *AL-ADWA'* today, Al-Batashi said: Military training and exercises among the GCC countries' armies are a very good factor; they serve the region's security to a great extent. He called for continuing efforts in this direction to make the enemies of this region know very well that this region is very serious in defending its soil by all means.

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war, the Omani Foreign Ministry under secretary said: We are all trying to reach a peaceful settlement to this war. However, this depends on the two belligerent parties' response to the proposals that are continuously being put forward to reach a settlement. In this regard, he called on the two parties at least to declare a cease-fire to make it possible for them to sit at the negotiating table.

Regarding the issue of diplomatic representation between his country and the PDRY, Al-Batashi said: There is no discrepancy between diplomatic representation and the border differences. Officials in the Sultanate had said that establishing diplomatic representation between one country and another is not totally dependent on the settlement of border disputes, he said. "We in the Sultanate pay great attention to this issue. An example of this is the meetings that were held between the two sides recently," he added. He said the next meeting will be held in the PDRY.

Installation of Arabsat Equipment Begins

GF131702 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1430 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Muscat, 13 Apr (WAKH) — The installing of the special equipment designed to monitor the transmission of the Arab satellite, Arabsat, began in a region known as Al-Hajar in Oman. This will help promote communication services within the Sultanate in particular and telephone services in general.

It has been reported that this project will cost 1.4 million Omani riyals. It is scheduled to be concluded in October.

QATAR

Burundian Foreign Minister Concludes Visit

GF151250 Doha QNA in Arabic 1120 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Doha, 15 Apr (QNA) — Burundian Foreign Affairs Minister Laurent Nzeyimana left Doha at noon today for London after a 3-day visit to the State of Qatar as part of his tour of a number of the region's states.

During the visit the Burundian foreign minister held talks with senior Qatari officials on the development of relations between the two countries in the field of economic cooperation, in addition to the situation in the Arab and African arenas.

AL-RAYAH Welcomes Joint PLO-Jordanian Moves

GF131730 Doha QNA in Arabic 0655 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Doha, 13 Apr (QNA) — The Qatari newspaper *AL-RAYAH* today expressed optimism over the Jordanian-PLO joint move to dispatch a joint delegation to visit the five superpowers, to explain the details and dimensions of the agreement reached between the two sides, and to obtain the support of these countries for this agreement. The paper said that this step provides new evidence on the seriousness of the Arab side in achieving a just and comprehensive peace.

The paper demanded that the United States and Britain exploit the currently available Middle East peace opportunity to maintain their interests and protect their relations with the region countries. The paper warned that if they do not make a move to exploit peace chances they may close the door of peace forever.

The paper warned that any U.S. or European move to solve the issue of the region must not eliminate the active Arab role that is aimed at backing the joint Palestinian-Jordanian move; this move is designed to expound on the dimensions of the agreement between the two sides and to urge the other sides to respond positively to this move.

AL-RAYAH also called on Arab diplomacy to mobilize all its potential to support this Palestinian-Jordanian move so that this will not be diffused by the enemies, as they did with all previous efforts, and consequently leave us consumed by frustration and grave consequences.

SAUDI ARABIA

General al-Hamad Confers With U.S. General Vessey

LD142333 Riyadh SPA in English 1926 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Riyadh, April 14, SPA — Visiting U.S. Chief of Joint Staff General John Vessey conferred here tonight with General Muhammad al-Hamad, chief of the Saudi Armed Forces General Staff on bilateral cooperation.

Canadian Communications Minister Arrives in Riyadh

LD131411 Riyadh SPA in English 1226 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Riyadh, April 13, SPA — Canadian Communications Minister Marcel Masse arrived here today on a two-day visit to Saudi Arabia. He will have talks with Saudi Posts, Telephones and Telegraphs (PTT) Minister Dr Alawi Darwish Kayyal on aspects of cooperation between the two countries.

On arrival, the Canadian minister expressed delight over his visit to the Kingdom and hoped that it would result in good outcome in the field of bilateral cooperation.

He described relations between Saudi Arabia and Canada as "excellent" and said they were established on firm basis of friendship and fraternity.

While in Riyadh, he will open officially the new Canadian Embassy premises in the Riyadh diplomatic quarter.

On the other hand, in a press statement, Masse said the Kingdom has made big achievements under the wise leadership of HM King Fahd and his predecessors in creating a modern and sophisticated nation, while retaining the traditional spiritual values of the birth place of Islam.

"On many major issues of the day, Canada and Saudi Arabia hold similar views. Like the Kingdom, for example, Canada has watched with grave concern the suffering and destruction caused by the Gulf war. Canada and Saudi Arabia have supported international efforts at mediation and have attempted to ensure that both parties to the dispute accept the concept of a negotiated settlement," Masse said.

He noted that Canada, while not an oil producer on the scale of Saudi Arabia, has developed a flourishing petroleum industry and shared the Kingdom's keen interest in maintaining an orderly market for that vital energy.

"Canada and Saudi Arabia have together recognised their responsibility to assist economic development outside their own borders, notably in the developing countries. Through organizations such as the Saudi Fund and the Canadian International Development Agency, they have worked quietly and effectively together, without thought of gain, to ensure a better future for the populations of such countries. Canada greatly appreciates Saudi Arabia's role as one of the leading international providers of economic development assistance to developing countries," Masse said.

On the international stage too, he said Canada and Saudi Arabia have cooperated closely.

"In multilateral agencies, such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, our similarity of outlook on major international economic issues have led to valuable collaboration. Canada has been especially gratified by the contribution Saudi Arabia has made to global stability," he added.

Masse said Saudi Arabia is Canada's most significant trading partner in the region, adding that Canadian companies with world class experience and technological expertises had been able to contribute to the Kingdom's economic progress.

"Bilateral cooperation in the fields of communications and transportations has been particularly intensive, and Canada looks forward to further successful collaboration with Saudi Arabia," he added.

He expressed confidence that trade and economic cooperation would continue to flourish, as the leaders of the two countries and their peoples came to know and understand one another better.

Communications Minister Opens Transportation Seminar

LD131403 Riyadh SPA in English 1243 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Riyadh, April 13, SPA — Saudi Communications Minister Husayn al-Mansuri opened here today a joint symposium on transportation technology.

James Snow, Ontario minister of urban transportation, is also attending the three-day symposium organised by the Saudi Communications Ministry.

Commentaries Stress Importance of Thatcher Visit

GF150824 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 15 Apr 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Gentlemen, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher arrived in the Kingdom yesterday and left it on the same day. Although the visit was short, it was of great importance due to the important issues discussed during the meeting of his majesty the king with Mrs Thatcher. Today newspapers concentrated on this visit.

AL-YAWM newspaper says that the relations between the Kingdom and Britain are strong, based on the development of mutual interests, the consolidation of bonds, and the creation of an atmosphere of cooperation in a way that conforms with the Kingdom's constant policy. The newspaper affirms that the visit of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to the Kingdom comes as a new contribution to the consolidation of Saudi-British bilateral relations. This visit also comes at a time when events in the Gulf region and the Arab region as a whole are witnessing a dangerous escalation.

AL-RIYADH newspaper says that now Britain, like most of the major European countries, no longer receives news about the region and its problems from individual information media that distort news. The success of the Kingdom in the economy, dialogue, and positions in the Western arena has attracted the Western side to the Arab point of view. The events of the region no longer belong to only one side. This is a favorable characteristic which is also considered to be an important Saudi contribution that has influenced the European way of thinking, not through nervous acts and threats, but through contemporary rationalism, the bridges of interests, and the pretexts of right and justice.

Commenting on the same issue, *AL-JIZARAH* says that Mrs Thatcher has adopted a position in support of the visit of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to the United States and has called on President Reagan on several occasions to respond to the Arab demands which she described as just. This matter was considered by many Arab and international political observers as great progress in the official British position toward the Middle East conflict and in support of the just Arab demands and Palestinian rights.

AL-MADINAH newspaper says that the Kingdom, with all its importance in this world, has always strived and will continue striving to support peace and justice in the various parts of the world and through all positions, meetings, and international organizations. The newspaper adds that great hopes are expected from the results of the meeting of his majesty the king and the British prime minister, since this meeting allows each party to understand the views of the other and allows for the continuation of consultation between Riyadh and London; this has great political influence on the Arab and European regions.

AL-BILAD says that Britain understands well the dimensions of the Kingdom's steps to achieve peace and stability represented by the Arab peace plan, which was adopted by the Fes summit as a practical basis for settling matters in the Middle East. The newspaper concludes that with the development and progress of these relations, under the leadership of his majesty the king and his honest crown prince, the Kingdom will continue its Arab and Islamic role in the international arena, thus affirming in any of its steps the importance of this role and its reaction with the issues of the Arab and Islamic nations.

'UKAZ newspaper says that the talks that were held by his Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Mrs Margaret Thatcher in Riyadh yesterday come within the framework of the Kingdom's endeavor to urge Britain and the other European countries to contribute seriously to the settlement of the region's issues.

Jordanian-Palestinian Peace Efforts Analyzed

LD151442 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Commentary by Jasir 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jasir]

[Text] Brothers, in their first meeting in Baghdad the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah movement Central Committee begin a series of meetings described by sources close to them as extremely important. The fact is that these meetings come at a time when there is intensive effort on the Arab and international scenes to give momentum to international efforts to resolve the Palestinian question.

At the Arab level, Jordanian-Palestinian delegations are preparing for visits to the five UN Security Council permanent member-states to urge them to help implement the UN resolutions, particularly the resolution on convening an international conference to resolve the Middle East problem with the participation of the interested parties in addition to the five UN Security Council permanent member-states.

At the international level, observers regard the current tour of Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state to the Middle East region, who today concluded a visit to the Jordanian capital, as the beginning of an American move to deal practically with the recent developments affecting the Palestinian issue; this especially includes the development of Palestinian-Jordanian relations resulting from the agreement based on the idea of land-for-peace barter, and the formation of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to participate in any international talks aimed at resolving the Middle East issue.

In Amman, no doubt Murphy found answers that, in his capacity as the American representative, he was eager to know in order to formulate the nature and trends of his future moves. Everyone expects these moves because any step by the United States, as one of the most important superpowers, is bound to have a negative or positive affect on the progress and settlement of the Middle East problem.

In return, the Jordanian officials must have received a preliminary answer from Murphy to their series of questions. Naturally, the Jordanian officials also should have briefed the Palestinian side on what happened in their talks with Murphy, in accordance with the requirements of joint political coordination between Jordan and the PLO under the terms of the recent accord.

Tomorrow, participants in the Baghdad meeting from the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah movement Central Committee will have before them a file containing a number of issues. In light of what will be discussed by the Palestinian leaders, the latter will define the way to deal with these issues, particularly the numerous forms of political talk option being examined by the international political circles. This requires Palestinians to adopt a concrete stand on these forms.

One can thus say that the Baghdad meeting will be one of the most important to be held by the Palestinian leadership. This importance is enhanced by the current circumstances surrounding the Palestinian issue.

Possibilities for Murphy's Mideast Tour Examined

LD142237 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Apr 85

["News and Comment" program by Husayn al-Askari]

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy commenced talks in Amman aimed at exploring the prospects for a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

On the eve of the American official's tour, U.S. Administration officials were keen to say that this tour is aimed at determining the features of the American movement in the region. This means that the American official came to listen to new events, probably the foremost of which is the result of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue about future movements towards finding a solution according to the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, signed by both parties last February. The agreement is rejected by the American Administration and Israel because, from the American point of view, it is not based on holding direct negotiations between Jordan and Israel with the participation of Palestinians outside the PLO. Such a condition was, and still is, rejected by Jordan and the organization because of the opinion that any negotiating position cannot reach definite results as long as one side doubts the importance of the representation of the other, and does not recognize it. This is Israel's position towards the PLO, and is also the position of the United States.

In such a situation, the current tour by the American official might not result in anything new in the positions, because the attitudes of the conflicting sides are still far apart. However the Jordanian-Palestinian side is more clear and frank in what it presents, which is that any negotiations must be implemented within the framework of an international conference in which all the directly concerned parties and the permanent members of the UN Security Council participate.

Therefore, it seems that it is premature to say that it is possible that the American-Israeli position might change in a way that could be a base for the coming stage of Jordanian-Palestinian action. This is because both Jordan and the organization have stated their position; the other side has to present proof of its wish to reach a meeting point that can be a base for finding the just and permanent solution to the problem. This should be on a solid base of understanding established under the umbrella of international legitimacy, after the lack of credibility of some sides who deal with the Arab-Israeli conflict from outside the circle of this conflict became clear due to their unbalanced view of the realities of the matter.

UAE

Commentaries Question Latest U.S. Moves in Area

GF130710 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0615 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 13 Apr (WAM) — In their editorials today two local newspapers discuss the moves the Arab region is currently witnessing. The dailies emphasize that establishing a comprehensive peace in the region begins with the U.S recognition of the PLO and ends with the acknowledgement of the Palestinian people's right to establish their independent state.

The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* comments on the meeting between the U.S. congressional delegation and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Amman before the arrival of Richard Murphy in the region amid speculations and reports about an increasing U.S. trend to support the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement and formation of a joint negotiation delegation.

AL-ITTIHAD expresses the conviction that the aim of this meeting between the U.S. congressional delegation and the PLO leader is "a gesture of encouragement for the PLO to continue the path Washington intends to drive it to in order to recognise UN Resolution 242 in preparation for the recognition of the Zionist entity itself."

The newspaper *AL-WAHDAH* comments on the coincidence of the U.S. move in the region with a similar Arab move. "The Reagan administration has sent its envoy, Richard Murphy, to the region for a new exploratory mission, the goals and intentions of which are ambiguous. At the same time, the U.S. congressional delegation, led by David Obey, continues its tour of the region and has left Amman for Damascus after talks with King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat."

AL-WAHDAH emphasizes that peace in the region is a necessity "but not at the expense of the Arab Palestinian rights." It also affirms that the practical steps to establish just and comprehensive peace in the region "begin with the U.S. recognition of the PLO and end with the acknowledgement of the Palestinian people's right to set up their independent state."

Concluding, *AL-WAHDAH* warns that the U.S insistence on direct negotiations between the Jordanians and Palestinians from outside the PLO with Israel is "destructive to the actual peace chances and that accepting the current U.S. logic is an open acceptance of the PLO's absence from the scene forever and a full relinquishment of the Arab Palestinian rights."

PDRY

Soviet Party, Government Delegation Continues Visit

Meet YSP Official

GF151233 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Brother Salih Hasan Muhammad, member of the YSP Central Committee and director of Bhadib Institute for Scientific Socialism, met in his office this morning with the Soviet party and government delegation led by Comrade Karin Brutents, deputy secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The meeting was attended by Brother Mahmud al-Najashi, member of the YSP Central Committee and YSP deputy secretary, and Comrade Ryzhov, Soviet deputy foreign minister.

During the meeting, they discussed aspects of cooperation between the Bhadib Institute for Scientific Socialism and the Institute of Social Sciences at the CPSU Central Committee, the progress of the study in the institute, means for developing the cooperation between the two institutes, and the preparation of the Yemeni cadres.

Comrade Karin Brutents delivered an important lecture to the students and the teaching staff of the institute in which he reviewed the developing international situation.

Received by Al-Dali

GF151354 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Political Bureau and foreign minister, has discussed the relations between our country and the USSR and the means for developing and strengthening them. This came during a meeting in his office this morning with the Soviet party and government delegation led by Comrade Karin Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU

Central Committee International Department, and Comrade Ryzhov, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs.

During the meeting they also reviewed the developing situation in the Arab region and the international situation in general. Both sides hold identical views on these issues.

The meeting was attended by Brother Muhammad 'Ali 'Imayah, deputy foreign minister, and Comrade Vladislav Petrovich Zhukov, the Soviet ambassador in Aden.

Chairman Awards Brutents Medal

GF151357 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has awarded Comrade Karin Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, the Medal of Friendship with the People according to a decision by the Supreme People's Council Presidium.

Al-Dali Receives Message From Kuwaiti Counterpart

GF151712 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Political Bureau and foreign minister, received a written message from his brother Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and chairman of the General Committee for the South and the Arab Gulf in the fraternal State of Kuwait, dealing with the bilateral relations and ways for developing and enhancing them.

This came during a meeting between Brother al-Dali in his office this afternoon with Brother Fadil Abu Ghayth, Kuwaiti charge d'affaires in Aden.

YSP Official Recieves Polish Party Delegation

GF151230 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Brother Hadi Ahmad Nasir, member of the YSP Central Committee and first secretary of the party organization in Aden Governorate, met this morning with the delegation of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] led by Comrade Marian Orzechowski, candidate member of the PZPR Politburo [title as heard].

During the meeting, they reviewed the activity conducted by the party organization committee in the Governorate of Aden, especially in light of the preparations and concentrated activities witnessed in Aden for convening the third annual YSP meeting.

The Polish delegation gave a detailed review of the struggle of the PZPR for achieving socialist construction and the preparation for the 10th party conference.

Brother Hadi Ahmad Nasir expressed satisfaction with the knowledge and valuable expertise presented by the Polish delegation in the field of party work.

Mubarak Chairs Meeting on Murphy's Mideast Tour

NC160930 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] President Husni Mubarak chaired a meeting this morning attended by Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali; People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub; Consultative Council Speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim; Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid; and Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that topics related to U.S. Presidential envoy Richard Murphy's visit to the Middle East were discussed during the meeting. The topics that Egypt will discuss with Jordan in the next few days were also discussed.

The meeting also dealt with the visit that an envoy of the chairman of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council will pay to Cairo today. This visit confirms the strong and good relations between the two countries.

Sudanese Military Council Member Visits Cairo

Arrives in Cairo

NC160935 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0920 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 16 Apr (MENA) — Lieutenant General Muhammad Tawfiq Khalil, member of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council, arrived in Cairo this morning for a 1-day visit.

He was met at the airport by Dr Wajih Shandi, minister of tourism and civil aviation.

Received by Mubarak

NC160944 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 16 Apr (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received Lieutenant General Muhammad Tawfiq Khalil, member of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council at Al-Qubbah Palace this morning. The meeting was attended by Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the Presidential Office for Political Affairs, and Mirghani Jawish, the Sudanese charge d'affaires in Cairo.

The Sudanese envoy carries a message for President Mubarak from General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council and commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces.

Israel's Weizman Arrives in Cairo 15 April

Makes Statement

NC152124 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2105 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 15 Apr (MENA) — Israeli Minister of State 'Ezer Weizman arrived in Cairo tonight on a visit to Egypt for several days. He was welcomed on his arrival by 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources; Ambassador 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, assistant foreign minister; and the Israeli charge d'affaires in Cairo.

Weizman said that he was very happy to visit Cairo and that he would like to meet with President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, and other Egyptian officials.

He added that he carries an oral message from Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres for President Mubarak. His discussions, he said, will deal with some important matters involving the Egyptian side, including the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel, the Tabah problem, the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, and the mission of the U.S. envoy Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Middle Eastern affairs, who is currently touring several Mideast states.

Received by Mubarak

NC161107 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1055 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 16 Apr (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received Israeli Minister of State 'Ezer Weizman at Al-Qubbah Palace at noon today.

GDR's Kleiber, Delegation Arrive in Cairo 15 Apr

NC151932 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 15 Apr (MENA) — Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR State Council, and his delegation arrived in Cairo at noon today for a 5-day official visit to Egypt.

In an arrival statement, the GDR official said that he will convey a verbal message to President Husni Mubarak from GDR leader Erich Honecker. This visit, he said, demonstrates the strong relations between the two countries. He added that the visit aims to promote possibilities for expanding cooperation between Egypt and the GDR in various fields. He said that his talks with Egyptian officials will be a chance to resume political dialogue, since the two countries are members of the Nonaligned Movement. He praised Egypt's stand in both the Nonaligned Movement and at the United Nations.

The GDR official and the members of his delegation will meet with President Mubarak and Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, as well as with a number of ministers.

Kleiber was met by Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, deputy prime minister and minister of higher education and scientific research; Dr Naji Shatlah, minister of supply and internal trade; and the GDR ambassador in Cairo.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Examines Relations With Sudan

NC160621 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 15 Apr (MENA) — In the 16 April issue, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* comments on the visit to Cairo of the Sudanese envoy sent by General Siwar al-Dhahab.

The paper writes that the visit takes place as part of the continuing communication links between the Egyptian and Sudanese leaders, which have not ceased since the recent changes in Sudan. The paper notes that this affirms beyond any doubt the profound relations between the two fraternal countries.

AL-JUMHURIYAH adds: Events have shown that relations between the people of the Nile Valley have not been the result of leaders or individuals, and are not dependent on their presence or departure. Instead, relations have been created by history and have developed over time; the people of the Nile Valley have been linked by a common destiny and common goals. They are one people whose unity will not be affected by events, trends, or changes.

AL-JUMHURIYAH concludes by writing: While affirming the special and profound relations with Egypt, the new Sudanese leaders reflect the will of the Sudanese people and express a firm principle accepted by the people of the Nile Valley. No leader can depart from these relations because they are historic and strategic, and will outlive individuals.

Commentary Sees Shift in U.S. Stand Toward PLO

NC151954 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Apr 85

['Abd al-'Azim Hammad commentary: "The Possibility of Amending the U.S. Position Toward the PLO"]

[Excerpts] There is some evidence indicating that the recent meeting in Amman between PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and a U.S. congressional delegation is a sign that an amendment in the U.S. attitude toward the PLO is possible, as was declared by 'Arafat's adviser Hani al-Hasan. This evidence is as follows:

1. The meeting was prepared in advance and with the knowledge of White House and congressional leaders;

2. 'Arafat met with delegation members in their capacity as representatives of the U.S. Congress and not as individuals, as was the case previously; and

3. This meeting did not create a storm in the United States like the one that resulted from a meeting between the U.S. representative at the United Nations and his Palestinian counterpart during Carter's presidency, even though this recent meeting involved the PLO chairman himself and not a junior official.

Such evidence, which corroborates the assessment made by the PLO chairman's adviser, indicates a U.S. understanding that opportunities for cooperating with the PLO should be explored in order to establish peace in the Middle East and resolve the Palestinian issue. At any rate, such an understanding in the U.S. policy has been generated, first of all, by the PLO-led Palestinian people's struggle; second, by the Arab states' aid to the PLO; and third, by the vast international support for the PLO's legitimate representation of the Palestinian people. The Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and the Egyptian moves to exploit this agreement represent two prominent contributions.

If the aforementioned factors have succeeded in creating an understanding in the U.S. policy of the need to explore chances of cooperating with the PLO, then undoubtedly these factors are also capable of developing this understanding so that it will have the power to actually initiate cooperation between Washington, the PLO, and other parties.

The United States does not object to the Palestinian right to self-determination in principle. Likewise, it does not in principle approve Israel's plans to annex the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Perhaps what confirms the actual difference between the U.S. and Israeli stands on the PLO is Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir's statement to the effect that his country will not cooperate with the PLO even if it recognizes Israel's right to survival. The United States, on the other hand, says that it will cooperate with the PLO if it recognizes Israel. The United States could have its own reasons for its commitments to date to Israel's attitude toward the PLO on the diplomatic level. However, the difference between the U.S. and Israeli stands make it possible for the Jordanian-Palestinian efforts, based on Arab and international support, to amend the U.S. attitude toward the PLO. There is no doubt that such an amendment, if it takes place, would be a victory for the Palestinian struggle and a defeat for the Israeli stand.

Commentary Views Murphy's Mideast Tour

PM151515 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 12 Apr 85 p 5

[Ahmad Nafi' article: "Before Murphy's Tour"]

[Text] U.S. assistant secretary of state Richard Murphy's tour of the Middle Eastern states involved in the crisis will begin in a few days. This tour is different from previous ones because its aim is to probe the possibility of a new U.S. move in fulfilling the Egyptian proposal calling for a U.S.-Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue to break the deadlock and proceed toward comprehensive peace negotiations in the region. President Husni Mubarak's proposal, on the basis of which the Murphy trip was decided, was itself based on the Amman agreement in which Jordan and the PLO pledged to work jointly in accordance with principles that could form a basis for a peaceful settlement in the region.

Murphy's trip is in itself a positive step by the U.S. Administration indicating that it has, after careful study,thoroughly understood the aims and motives of the Egyptian proposal. Above all it means that the United States has abandoned its "nonintervention" policy pursued after the failure of the U.S. policy in Lebanon. The reason is, without doubt, that Washington, as urged by Cairo, became aware of the danger of possible developments in the Arab region if the right solution was not found.

The United States has reached this conclusion on the basis of its analysis of current events in the region, especially in southern Lebanon where resistance operations, led by Shi'ite elements with Palestinian participation, are mounting and where the situation is deteriorating as a result of Israel's repressive measures and its failure to withdraw completely and all the way to the international borders.

However, despite this new initiative, certain questions have to be answered before we can assess the extent of the change in the U.S. thinking and the new U.S. approach to the Middle East conflict. Murphy's mission will undoubtedly show the degree of U.S. willingness to reactivate the issue in two main ways:

1. Holding a dialogue with the PLO in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people based on the Arab resolutions issued by the Rabat and Fes summit conferences.

2. Persuading Israel to sit down at the negotiating table with the PLO in order to settle the main problem in the conflict. Negotiations on a comprehensive settlement would follow.

The United States would achieve half a success with one move by talking to the PLO. It has now been established beyond doubt that nobody in the occupied territory or anywhere else can hold talks with the United States without the PLO umbrella at least. The United States should abandon its pretexts for not talking to the PLO, such as the claim that the PLO has terrorist elements. It forgets that several of Israel's current leaders were such terrorists during the British mandate in Palestine. Furthermore, the United States did hold talks with the PLO on several occasions in the past. The two most famous occasions were the talks held at the time of the crisis of the U.S. hostages in Iran and the talks held regarding the withdrawal of U.S. Marines from Lebanon.

The United States in fact views the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement as a significant development. In that agreement, the two sides declared their intention to move jointly toward a peaceful settlement based on acceptance of UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions on the Palestinian question. They also announced agreement on the concept of confederation between Jordan and the Palestinian state. It now remains for the United States to translate its view of the agreement into a real move that would clarify attitudes and overcome the obstacles on the long road to a settlement.

If the United States wants its envoy's mission to succeed it must let him meet with the Palestinians, mix with them, and learn their views. All Palestinians, whether identified as extremists or moderates, belong to the PLO. If Murphy intends to contact the Palestinians then the U.S. Administration should announce it, regardless of whether it wants to recognize the PLO directly or indirectly. The PLO, on the other hand, should select principled elements for the dialogue aimed at fulfillment of the Palestinian people's rights.

Like the Arab states, the PLO is aware of the importance of the U.S. role in solving the problem, especially if the aim is to promote a settlement through an international conference with U.S. and Soviet participation.

The United States should restore its credibility in the region by making Israel acknowledge the prerequisites for a settlement approved by the Arab states and the PLO at the Fes conference or, in other words, acknowledge the right of all the region's states, including a Palestinian state, to live in peace within secure and recognized borders. The Fes and other resolutions prove that the Arab side advocates peace but will not agree to capitulation or undermining of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights.

Despite Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' statements about "peace in exchange for territory" the Israeli position remains ambiguous regarding Peres' repeated concept; this has led observers to believe that he means comprehensive peace for Israel in return for a part of the occupied Arab territory. Peres has been quoted as saying that he is willing to give back 60 percent of the occupied territory. That is why Israel's intentions are in doubt. If Israel wants real and durable peace then it must give back all the occupied Arab territories in return for comprehensive peace for all the states of the region.

A change in Israel's attitude toward the PLO is naturally one of the main prerequisites for a settlement. That also depends on U.S. efforts and seriousness in its new approach. It would be quite futile to cling to the old pretexts or to ignore the facts of life. The PLO is recognized by the majority of states in the world. It represents 5 million people who are pround of their nationalism and their national culture and who insist on fulfilling their legitimate aspirations.

Talking abour Murphy's mission does not mean that one expects radical solutions to be achieved during his tour but it is hoped that the tour would pave the way for sincere efforts to promote a settlement. Failure would adversely affect all parties to the Middle East conflict. The U.S. envoy's mission cannot fail if the United States follows the sound course dictated by the Jordanian-Palestinian joint move toward a peaceful settlement. That move is supported by the Arab states and the rest of the world, especially after this positive U.S. initiative.

Reportage on PLO Committee Meetings in Baghdad

Lebanese Situation Reviewed

JN151806 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Joint meetings of the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee began in Baghdad at noon today under the chairmanship of brother commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. Our correspondent has learned that the joint meetings made a detailed review of the explosive situation in southern Lebanon, where the Zionist-Phalangist aggression is continuing against the steadfast camps of our Palestinian people in 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah Wa Miyah camps, as well as against the heroic city of Sidon.

The conferees discussed ways to bolster our people's steadfastness there and to defeat the Zionist-Phalangist aggression. The two committees hailed the joint forces' steadfastness and their confronting aggression in the camps of 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah Wa Miyah. The joint meetings also discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian issue and current Arab events, as well as the current political moves in the Arab region, particularly Murphy's current tour. In this regard, the meeting affirmed the unchanging strategic constants of the Palestinian national struggle.

'Arafat's Baghdad Talks Detailed

JN151850 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The following is an evaluation of the results of brother commander Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] meeting with Iraqi leaders and officials and of the results of his visit to Amman by Nabil 'Amr, Fatah Revolutionary Council member, who participated in most of these meetings:

[Begin recording]['Amr] Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to Baghdad is the first since the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement was signed. Of course, Brother Abu 'Ammar met with President Saddam Husayn and explained the Palestinian situation to him. Views were exchanged on the general Arab situation. President Saddam assured Brother Abu 'Ammar of Iraq's support for the PLO and the Palestinian people's struggle under the PLO, its sole legitimate representative. He asserted that Iraq's position on this issue is a principled one. He said that the Palestinian issue will remain the primary and most essential issue for Iraq and the Arab nation, despite the fact that Iraq is engaged in a grinding war with Iran.

Abu 'Ammar affirmed the Palestinian people's pride, as well as that of the PLO, in Iraq's commitment to the Palestinian cause and its support for the Palestinian people's struggle and the PLO during difficult times. Abu 'Ammar said that he personally, as well as the PLO, will exert intensive efforts in order to stop the Iraq-Iran war in a comprehenisve and final manner. This will be done within the ability of the PLO, its friends, and allies. Abu 'Ammar affirmed to President Saddam that the PLO, the Palestinian people, and all peace- loving forces value Iraq's cooperation and positive response to peace mediation efforts. He expressed his hope that peace will be realized for the sake of the two fraternal peoples of Iraq and Iran, and said that this peace can only be realized at the negotiating table. There is no other way to realize peace.

[Unidentified reporter] Was Abu 'Ammar's meeting with President Saddam Husayn the only meeting he had with Iraqi officials?

['Amr] No. There was another prolonged meeting with Comrade Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. A full review of the situation was made, in the sense that the meeting made a more detailed review of the issues that were discussed with the president. [end recording]

Meetings Resume Under 'Arafat

JN160809 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0718 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Apr (INA) — Joint meetings of the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee resumed here last night under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat. During the meeting, which lasted until dawn today, the conferees reviewed the Palestine question developments in the Arab and international arenas, as well as the Jordanian-Palestinian move toward finding a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestine question. PNC Speaker 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih and PNC Deputy Speaker Salim al-Za'nun, also known as Abu al-Adib, attended the meeting.

Al-Wazir, Al-Hasan, Milhim Arrive

JN160817 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0735 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Apr (INA) — Khalil al-Wazir, also known as Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived here today to participate in the joint meetings of the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee, which resumed here last night and lasted until dawn today. Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and 'Arafat's adviser, and Muhammad Milhim, PLO Executive Committee member, have also arrived to participate in the meetings.

Joint Meetings Resume

JN161135 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1045 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Apr (INA) — The PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee resumed their joint meetings here today under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat. Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, told INA that the session will center on discussing inter-Arab and Arab-Palestinian relations. On the other hand, PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih told INA that the Palestinian leadership's joint meetings aim at achieving the Palestinian revolution's objectives in accordance with the charters and resolutions of the 16th and 17th PNC sessions. He described the current meetings of the Palestinian revolution leadership in Baghdad as objective and as seeking to achieve the supreme Arab interest.

He said that meetings are proceeding in a manner that satisfies the Palestinian people and meets the ambitions of struggle against the Israeli occupation authorities.

U.S. Proposal Discussed

AU161222 Paris AFP in English 1151 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Paris, April 16 (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation's Executive Committee opened a meeting today in Baghdad to discuss a U.S. proposal for a meeting between a U.S. official and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, an adviser to PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat said in an interview published here today. The adviser, Hani al-Hasan, interviewed by the Saudi-owned newspaper *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, said a proposal had been conveyed to the PLO through the Jordanian Government for a meeting with the official, Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs. Mr. Murphy is now touring the Middle East.

King Husayn Receives U.S. Senator Evans

JN151818 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn met with Senator Daniel Evans, member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, this afternoon. The meeting was attended by Zayd al-Rifa'i, the prime minister; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, the court minister; Staff General Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; and Tahir al-Masri, the foreign minister. Talks during the meeting dealt with the Jordanian-Palestinian joint action based on the agreement that was concluded on 11 February and the serious Jordanian-Palestinian effort to find a comprehensive solution to the issue within an international conference attended by all the disputing parties.

Zayd ibn Shakir Receives Senator

JN151837 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Amman, 15 Apr (PETRA) — Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, received at his office at the General Command this afternoon U.S. Senator Daniel Evans, who is currently visiting Jordan. During the meeting, they discussed current issues in the region and matters of mutual interest.

Contacts With Syria Discussed With Yasir 'Arafat

GF151444 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 14 Apr 85 p 8

["Exclusive" dispatch from Baghdad]

[Excerpt] *AL-ITTIHAD* has learned from leading Palestinian sources that Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i affirmed to Yasir 'Arafat, during their latest meeting in Amman and in the presence of 17 Jordanian and Palestinian officials, that no Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement will take place at the expense of the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship. Al-Rifa'i told 'Arafat that if such a rapprochement takes place, it will be in coordination with the Palestinians. The statement of the Palestinian sources has come in answer to a question on the nature of the Palestinian reaction regarding what has been recently rumored about contacts between Amman and Damascus, which have resulted in a visit to Damascus by former Jordanian Prime Minister 'Abd al-Mun'im al-Rifa'i.

The sources indicated that the issue of the Jordanian-Syrian contacts is a subject Yasir 'Arafat discussed with King Husayn of Jordan and his prime minister during the two meetings 'Arafat held in Amman a few days ago, in addition to other issues dealing with the coordination of Jordanian-Palestinian moves in regard to Jordanian peace efforts, the visit of U.S. envoy Richard Murphy, and the question of the formation of the joint [Jordanian-Palestinian] delegation, which the Palestinian sources affirmed is not solved yet. No agreement has so far been reached regarding the names of any Palestinian figures which will join the Jordanian delegation in any future peace negotiations.

Zayd ibn Shakir Receives Egyptian Delegation

JN151511 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1438 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Amman, 15 Apr (PETRA) — Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, received at his office at the General Command this morning General Ibrahim 'Abd al-Ghafur al-'Urabi, chief of staff of the Egyptian Armed Forces, and his delegation. They discussed some affairs of interest to the two fraternal countries. The meeting was attended by Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, chief of staff, and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman. The delegation listened to a military briefing on the development of the Jordanian Armed Forces and the missions and duties they carry out, as well as the defense policy and our Armed Forces' various potentials. Then a meeting was held with the chief of staff, his aides, and the Armed Forces inspector general. During the meeting, which was attended by the guest delegation, they discussed a number of points and affairs of interest to the Armed Forces in the two fraternal countries.

Junblatt Defends Islamic Jihad, Plane Hijackings

NC151629 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Minister Walid Junblatt has stated that the Israelis, like the Crusaders, will be thrown into the sea sooner or later, even if this will cost us a third world war. In an interview published today by the French newspaper *LE MATIN*, Junblatt added: It is a new Crusade. The first Crusade lasted 300 years, during which time we threw those involved into the sea. The day will come when we will throw the Israelis into the sea.

Junblatt did not rule out the recognition of Israel, but made such recognition conditional, when he spoke about the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank and Gaza. Junblatt accused Israel of having brought the Lebanese Forces to southern Lebanon. He declared his readiness to approve the return of dissident Palestinian fighters to southern Lebanon.

Asked by the French newspaper about the Islamic Jihad organization, Minister Junblatt stated that he supports the activities of this organization against U.S. imperialism. He pointed out that he does not support the establishment of an Islamic state in Lebanon. He said that he supports the protection of pluralism.

Junblatt added: I support the hijacking of planes, despite the fact that I am minister of communications. He noted that the security officer at Beirut Airport, who hijacked a MEA plane to Cyprus last month, has returned to his post. Junblatt also affirmed that he is receiving arms from his friend Al-Qadhdhafi, whom he described as a good and splendid man.

Junblatt May 'Intervene Militarily' in Sidon

GF151259 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 14 Apr 85 p 1

["Exclusive" dispatch from Beirut]

[Text] Informed sources have affirmed that Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, has told Syrian leaders that he intends to intervene militarily in the confrontation taking place in Sidon.

The sources said the Syrian leadership put heavy pressure on Junblatt so that he would not take any military initiative as long as the government can deal with the situation by legitimate means through the Lebanese Army.

The sources indicated that Sidon deputy Dr Nazih al-Bizri, who has met with Junblatt, has asked him to help Sidon to secure the safety of the Beirut coastal road, so that the Lebanese Forces will not lay siege to southern Lebanon. Junblatt has promised to secure the coastal road.

The Syrian Army has noticed in the higher Al-Matn area in the Lebanon mountains that the Lebanese Forces recently began to erect armed fortifications and to dig trenches in the Kasrawan area, northern Al-Matn, and southern Al-Matn, on the lines adjacent to the Syrian forces, to prevent the Syrian Army from sweeping into these areas.

Birri Leaves for Meeting With Syria's Khaddam

NC151508 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for southern Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, left for Damascus this afternoon. During his visit he will meet with Syrian officials, especially with Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, to discuss the new developments in Lebanon. Particular attention will be paid to the situation in the south.

Returns From Damascus Visit

NC160816 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, returned to Beirut from Damascus this morning following talks with senior Syrian officials on the situation in the south and Lebanon.

Lebanese Forces Executive Committee Issues Statement

NC151650 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] We have just received the text of a statement issued by the Lebanese Forces' Executive Committee during a meeting which it held this afternoon. The statement says:

1. The Executive Committee views with satisfaction the initiative made by His Excellency [former] President Camille Sham'un, who called for a meeting of ministers and deputies at his house to discuss the issue of the south. The committee declares its solidarity with the stand adopted by the conferees at this meeting and its complete support for the statement issued at its conclusion.

2. The Executive Committee expresses surprise at Prime Minister Rashid Karami's statements in which he accused the Lebanese Forces of triggering the situation. Such statements were made despite his definite knowledge that the south has been erupting since 1975, and that the current difficulties began on 1 March — that is, before the uprising took place — when 400 Jundallah members entered Humin al-Tahta. Only 3 days after their entry, four Christian citizens from 'Abra were kidnapped. On 9 March Palestinian organizations began shooting at the town of Al-Miyah Wa Miyah. These are only some of the facts of which Karami is aware. He also knows that deployment of the Lebanese Army continues to be obstructed by the rejection of extreme Islamic groups and by Palestinian organizations, as well as by conditions set by Ministers Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri.

The Executive Committee holds Rashid Karami, in his capacity as prime minister, responsible for what has happened and for what might happen in the future.

3. The Executive Committee underscores the political decision which it made 3 weeks ago and which provides for the unconditional dispatch of Lebanese Army forces to the south. Earlier the Committee presented a plan in this regard. To prove the serious-

ness of its decision, the Committee approved all the proposals presented to it by the Lebanese Army Command and expressed every readiness to withdraw all armed personnel as soon as the Army takes over.

The Executive Committee urges all effective forces to continue exerting efforts at every level to achieve deployment of the Lebanese Army in the south and to put an immediate end to the fighting.

Cease-Fire Reached in Beirut; Calm Prevails

NC151501 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] According to sources of the Security Arrangements Committee, which is dealing with the clashes taking place on the contact lines in Beirut, an agreement to cease fire as of 1515 today has been reached.

A short while ago these sources reported that calm is prevailing in all the areas of tension which were the scene of clashes this morning.

Reportage on Factional Fighting in Sidon Area

Army Force Arrives

NC151913 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Excerpt] A Lebanese Army force composed of 34 armored cars, 3 trucks, and 4 jeeps arrived in Sidon at 1410 today. Part of this force took up position at the Muhammad Zughayb Barracks, pending its deployment in tense areas. The other part of the force proceeded to the Al-Zahrani area.

Fragmentation, Phosphorous Shells Used

NC151822 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Excerpt] The freed city of Sidon is still being subjected to a major plot implemented by enemy agents against innocent citizens. All contacts and consultations that have taken place have not succeeded in putting an end to this tragedy, which has been continuing for about 1 month now. Sidon, Harat Sayda, the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulway camps, Al-Qayya'ah al-Wusta, and (Sirup) continue to receive violent and random shelling.

The sources of this shelling are artillery emplacements belonging to the militias of agents Lahd and Ja'ja', located in the hills of Kafr Falus, 'Alman, 'Abra, Al-Hilaliyah, and Al-Bramiyah.

Security sources have affirmed that the enemy agents are using fragmentation and incendiary phosphorous shells in their shelling of residential areas, especially inside Sidon. Several shells fell on Al-Najmah Square, Riyad al-Sulh Street, the hospitals, and Mar Ilyas. Over 40 citizens have been killed or wounded and many residential buildings set on fire as a result of this shelling.

Ship Lands Men, Arms

NC151917 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] At approximately 1600 today, a ship anchored close to the Al-Jiyah power plant and about 200 fully armed personnel belonging to Ja'ja's group landed. Arms and ammunition also were unloaded from the ship. Trucks were seen transporting the armed personnel and arms in the direction of Jun in order to reinforce enemy agents east of Sidon.

Lebanese Forces Begin Withdrawal

NC151944 Paris AFP in English 1919 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Beirut, April 15 (AFP) — The Lebanese Forces Christian militia, whose members have been fighting with Lebanese Moslem and Palestinian forces in Sidon, today began to pull out of the southern port city, a militia official said. One hundred and fifty militiamen who had been sent as reinforcements to Sidon in recent weeks were withdrawn back to Beirut today, as well as heavy artillery, the official said. The pullout, confirmed by a source close to the Shia Moslem militia Amal, coincided however with the death of three people, killed in the early afternoon when Lebanese Forces started shelling a residential quarter, reports from Sidon said. Five weeks of fighting in the southern Lebanese capital have left 74 dead and 347 wounded, according to an updated estimate. The withdrawal is a "sign of goodwill" aimed at ending the fighting, the official said, but warned that the withdrawal of all Christian fighters sent to Sidon would depend on the successful deployment of Lebanese Army troops in the city and "guarantees" for local Christians.

Palestinian Advance Thwarted

NC160636 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Palestinian forces carried out a series of attacks last night in an attempt to advance toward the village of Al-Miyah Wa Miyah. All of their attacks, however, foundered, thanks to the people's resistance. In addition, the attackers have suffered grave losses. Last night Al-Qayya'ah, Al-Hilaliyah, and Al-Bramiyah were subjected to rocket and machinegun fire from positions held by extremist political and religious organizations in the Al-'Ali buildings, Sidon's eastern boulevard, and Al-Basatin. Our correspondent has just reported that a cease-fire was reached at 0700. However, the Palestinian attitude toward cease-fires is well known.

Palestinian Forces Arrive

GF160826 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0635 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Dubayy, 16 Apr (WAKH) — Well-informed Lebanese sources in Beirut reported that a number of combatants belonging to the opposition Palestine Salvation Front arrived at the city of Sidon in southern Lebanon during the past few days and began repulsing the attacks to which the city is being subjected — particularly the camps of 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah Wa Miyah — by the forces of rebellious Samir Ja'ja' and the agent

Antoine Lahd. The Dubayy newspaper *AL-BAYAN* quoted these sources as saying that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat dispatched several ships loaded with weapons and food to the city of Sidon in order to back his supporters in the city. The sources added that he smuggled about 300 followers to Tripoli. The sources expect that 'Arafat's followers — who arrived in Tripoli — will ally themselves with the Islamic Unification Movement led by Sa'id Sha'ban. The paper pointed out that 'Arafat's inclination to restore his forces to Lebanon enjoys Jordanian approval.

Shelling Resumes in Sidon

NC160922 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Correspondents in the Sidon area have reported that artillery and rocket shelling resumed this morning on various fronts after continuing intermittently throughout the night. Some sources at the city's hospitals said that seven persons were wounded early this morning while four others were admitted to hospitals during the night. This has brought the number of casualties during the past 48 hours to 6 dead and 40 wounded. Heavy property damage was also caused to residential buildings.

Amal Gunmen Confiscate Palestinian Weapons

NC161051 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Security sources have reported that the clashes which broke out early today between Amal gunmen and pro-'Arafat Palestinians in the Burj al-Barajinah camp began when Amal gunmen confiscated quantities of weapons and ammunition which the pro-'Arafat gunmen were trying to bring into the camp. The same sources added that the Amal movement captured 17 Palestinians, but later released them. Palestinian sources in the camp said that the situation has been tense over the past 3 days due to kidnappings between Amal and pro-'Arafat gunmen. All efforts by the Salvation Front to pacify the situation have failed.

Israelis Begin Dismantling Al-Qasimiyah Bridge

NC161040 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Israeli forces started to dismantle the Al-Qasimiyah steel bridge this morning, thus cutting the Sidon-Tyre coastal road. Amal movement sources in the south have reported that the dismantling operation follows the start of the Israeli withdrawal from the Tyre area. Security reports from the south indicate that Israeli forces have taken parts of the bridge to Al-Naqurah.

Resistance Forces Attack Israeli Troops in South

NC160630 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] According to reports from the south, Lebanese national resistance forces launched an attack on the enemy in Wadi Jilu at 2200 last night. The attack subsequently developed into fierce fighting, during which rockets and machineguns were used. The fighting left a number of enemy personnel dead or wounded. In a similar development, resistance forces attacked a Zionist position in Jall al-Bahr in Tyre, using 109-mm rockets. Initial reports said that the enemy suffered heavy casualties. A huge fire broke out in the position and dense columns of smoke have been seen.

Al-Asad Addresses Youth Conference in Damascus

JN152050 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1633 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Speech by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad at the fourth general conference of the Syrian Revolution's Youth Federation in Al-Fayha' Hall in Damascus — live]

[Excerpts] Comrades, members of the fourth general conference of the Revolution's Youth Federation . [applause] Brothers and friends [applause], youth are the hope we have in the present for the future [applause], and the future pins its hope on the present. The present heralds a prosperous future, and the future hopes that the present will provide the factors for prosperity. The individual is the basis of these factors. [applause] Preparations that are made now will make the future bright. If sound preparations are made now, then the future will be prosperous and darkness will recede. If poor preparations are made now, then the future will not be prosperous and darkness will prevail.

Our youth conference today is a prominent stage in the march of our youth movement. This conference will study intellectual matters and practical plans that will give momentum to the march of our youth in the forthcoming stage, thus making it more effective. We positively evaluate the achievements of the past session, which came after the third general conference. Here we would like to praise the activities of our youth in all spheres in Syria . [applause] Brothers, the fourth conference of the revolution's Youth Federation convenes after a working session rich in content and bountiful in offering, promising near success and heralding the enhancement of the fruitful and constructive role our young men and women assume in Syria's life. This was demonstrated by your excellent efforts as leaders and members of this youth movement on all levels during the past session. This session was characterized by your active and effective participation in confronting the provocations and the difficult circumstances we have experienced in Syria; this includes the circumstances that were brought about as a result of the vile agent and reactionary conspiracy that is linked to the Zionist-imperialist scheme, which is hostile to our country and to our Arab nation.

We have the right to be proud that our young women have participated side by side with their fellow young men in all activities. With them, they have carried out activities in the spheres of production and services in an assiduous, serious, and completely capable way. They also passed through the complex stages of combat training. They succeeded in performing military parachuting. [applause] They also joined their fellow young men in confronting the reactionary conspiracy, the Muslim Brotherhood gang. They excelled in this, and proved that they can fight and confront the enemy, offer sacrifices, and die for the sake of principles and for the defense of the revolution and the homeland. The blood of the male and female martyrs flowed together on the land of struggle. All this has been a medal that decorates the Syrian Arab woman [applause], and truthful evidence that she has conquered backwardness and has proceeded forward to assume her real position in society, the progressive and socialist society . [applause]

Our young women were martyred side by side with our young men. They were those who loved the homeland best, and the most generous among those who offered sacrifices for the people. They loved the people and sacrificed for them, loved the homeland and sacrificed for it, and loved moral values and sacrificed for them . [applause] This is the path of truth. This is the path of justice. This is the path of glory. It is the path of martyrdom . [applause]

I do not remember the names of the young men and women from the revolution's youth who were martyred, because there are too many names . [applause] Glory and esteem to the martyrs of the revolution's youth, both men and women . [applause] Love is for the martyrs of the revolution's youth, both men and women. [applause] Glory and immortality to the martyrs of the revolution's youths, both men and women . [applause] We pledge to the martyrs of the revolution's youth, both men and women, that we will tread the same path, because martyrdom is the highest of values and the epitome of sincerity . [applause]

While speaking of martyrdom, we pay tribute to and mention with pride those heroes on the land of Arab Lebanon, who are embodying martyrdom; they believe that martyrdom is the course to expel the invasion and to teach a lesson to the Israeli invaders, who imagine that they can annex whatever part of Lebanon they want and transform Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate whose inhabitants would be changed into mercenary groups. Their hopes were dissipated and their mean, aggressive plans were crushed by resisting children, who were transformed themselves into irresistible waves of martyrs. These martyrs looked for martyrdom where the enemy is stationed: in the Israeli camps, in the Israeli conveys, in the Israeli posts, and where the Israeli patrol units are stationed . [applause] God bless you, O resisting Lebanese fighters . [applause] God and the people are blessing you. You are the flowers of this nation. You have been the paragon and model. You have taught the Israelis good lessons they will probably keep in mind . [applause]

You have taught them that the Arab nation will not surrender, that Arab politicians who are defeatists and know in their hearts that they are defeatists, do not represent the Arab masses. [applause] You have taught them that those who haggle and bow before the Israeli executioner do this because they fear for their posts, their privilieges, and their money, which they have stolen from people's sweat and blood. You have taught them that these politicians are only spies among our people, traitors to our masses, and that we will force them to account for their deeds. We will make them pay through our harsh punishment, which is not milder than our dealing with the invaders but is another way that suits enemy collaborators. [applause]

You have taught the Israelis that the Arab masses no longer are cautious or fearful of their tanks and planes. You have taught them that Camp David and similar paths are only paths of death for the traitors who look for or walk on them. Blessed are the heroic Lebanese masses. Let the banner of martyrs be raised aloft — banners such as that of Shaykh Raghib Harb, Nazih Qabratli, Wajdi al-Sayigh [applause], 'A'idah Nasrallah, Bilal Fahs, 'Abdallah al-Jizih, Hasan Darwish, and many others and last but not the least, hero martyr Thana' Mhaybali. [applause] Only days before her martyrdom, Thana' Mhaybali was reported to have been as happy as a bride. She was yearning for the day when she would be wedded to martyrdom until the day of her glorious wedding came. [applause]

O resistance men in Lebanon, Syria supports you in word and deed. It will always be ready to share everything with you, and to share martyrdom with you before anything else. Your relationship with Syria is the same as that which exists between Syria and the Syrians. The trench is one, and the enemy is the same enemy. Our fate is also one. [applause]

Brothers and friends, what Zionism and the United States are plotting against in this region is no secret to you. You also are aware of what they want to gain from this plot at the present stage. They are trying to subject our region to their control by spreading the Camp David agreements. They aim to hunt the Arab countries one by one. They want to impose capitulation on them, one after another. The Egyptian regime was their first prey. Lebanon was slated to be the second prey. However, the Zionist-U.S. plot in Lebanon failed because of the Lebanese national resistance. [applause] It failed because Syria stood by fraternal Lebanon with all its resources. [applause] Zionism, backed by the United States, tried to avenge this by using a group of Lebanese who insist on wrenching themselves from their roots, disavowing their affiliation, and ignoring geographic and historical facts by plunging Lebanon anew into the blood of the innocents. However, we are confident that the convoy will proceed forward and that the Lebanese people will defeat this enemy scheme as they foiled the enemy's schemes many times before. [applause]

We are certain that the Lebanese national resistance and its elements from the youths who believe in their homeland, in pan-Arabism, and in identity will continue to deal painful blows to the Israeli invaders until their forces totally withdraw from the Lebanse territory. Syria will remain a backer of the fraternal Lebanese people, their nationalist forces, and the Lebanse national resistance until it defeats the forces of aggression.

With the anti-Lebanese plots, plotting continues against the Palestinian revolution, in order to liquidate it at the hands of those regimes who are panting after the crumbs of the Israeli and U.S. tables. They are appeasing them with all means, making use of some rightist symbols in the Palestinian arena. Again, we are confident that the Palestinian people in particular, and the Arab people in general — specifically their militant youth — will sever the hand that signs the writ of capitulation and will foil the liquidatory conspiracy. [applause] Those involved in the plot should have learned a lesson from the fate of those who preceded them on the road to liquidating the cause. [applause] They should have learned a lesson from Al-Sadat's fate and from those who preceded him on this course. We now have another symbol of capitulation, who has been toppled from his throne without any regret. Ja'far Numayri has been toppled after he followed Zionism as far as he could. [applause]

Ja'far Numayri has been toppled after he followed Zionism as far as he could and after he tortured Sudan's people and its national and progressive forces. He bet on the United States, he bet on the Camp David regime in Egypt, and he bet on Israel. These bets did not benefit him. The Sudanese people and Army were stronger than all of these, and Numayri left in disgrace following the begging trip to the United States — a trip with which he concluded his political life.

Our enemies are always seeking a regime that is ready to make concessions and to bow; they are seeking followers who are ready to follow the steps of imperialism and to submit to Israel's hegemony. They want Israel to dominate this region and turn it into an advanced Zionist-imperialist base in order to continue war against the Arab citizens and the Arab masses, to impose the policy it wants on the region, to impose the ruling skeletons, and to create greater Israel, from the Nile to the Euphrates. Therefore, they want all Arabs to pursue the Camp David trend, the trend of surrender, as a clear-cut path that will deprive the Arabs of their right to sovereignty and to free decisionmaking, a fact that will pave the way for usurping the Arab land.

As a result, they harbor feelings of hatred against Syria. They continue their brutal hostility toward Syria because they hate the strength of our positions, which are based on the interests of our people and nation. They hate our insistence on continuing to develop and reinforce our defensive capability and to seek the achievement of a strategic balance with our enemy. They hate our national pride, and they wish they could destroy it. They hate our support for the nationalist and Arab forces' rebellion and our resistance against their designs and aggression.

We are the owners of a cause, and our enemies do not want us to have a cause. They want to usurp our right to the simplest of our just causes. We will regain our rights and our occupied land. We will not beg them, because begging is humiliating to our people and their future generations. We will not bequeath humiliation to our future generations, but we will bequeath them pride, honor, and dignity. We adhere to the rights of our Palestinian Arab people in their homeland, including their right to self-determination, repatriation, and the establishment of their own independent state on their national soil. We refuse to bargain on these rights, and we insist on the need to regain them.

We believe in Arab unity, and we are the advocates of unity. We exert every effort to achieve unity. The enemies of our nation's enemies are the same enemies of this unity who hate those who struggle for unity [sentence as heard]. We are freedom-lovers. We want freedom for our people, for our nation, and for everyone. Our enemies are the enemies and killers of freedom throughout history. We are socialists, and we believe in equality and justice for all people. Our enemies are the enemies of socialism, because they usurp other people's wealth and lands within the framework of a programmed colonial invasion. We understand peace as justice and honor, and our enemies want it as a humiliation and surrender for our nation. These are the elements of our conflict. O youth, your role in this conflict is a basic one, because you are the permanent source of the homeland's strength, immunity, and unmatched wealth.

Al-Asad Receives Message From Palestinian Notable

JN151416 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1315 GMT 15 apr 85

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad has received a message of congratulations and greetings from the well-known

Palestinian nationalist struggler Bassam al-Shak'ah, former mayor of Nabulus. The text of the message is as follows: Bassam al-Shak'ah, who is stationed in Nabulus, the mountain of fire, congratulates and greets the hero of steadfastness and confrontation, Leader Hafiz al-Asad, who is protecting Arabism and dignity, and who is the victor over the Zionist and U.S. enemies. Glory and immortality to the homeland.

New Cabinet Holds First Meeting 15 Apr

JN151433 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus — The new Council of Ministers held its first meeting under Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm at 1100 today. In this meeting, Dr Al-Kasm outlined the bases defined by President Hafiz al-Asad's directives; these are aimed at creating actual progress in assuming and shouldering responsibility in all positions, and at strengthening the connection between decisions and implementation as well as between the economic and social objectives of the party and the state.

The prime minister also explained that the forthcoming stage required that all officials, leaders, and producers employ the positive aspects and the various past achievements in a broad and comprehenisve line of work and production for the sake of the defined objectives. He added: We have to achieve more growth, production from our resources, and more urgent and various services that meet the needs of our people, who are making sacrifices and are remaining steadfast in this country.

The prime minister added: Serving the people and caring for how achievements reflect on their lives are the main task and our goal. By assuming our responsibilities, we all have to embody the principle of respecting the law, because the community's safety stems from the safety and proper implementation of law.

Dr al-Kasm concluded: We will not be indulgent toward any insufficiency, negligence, or violation of the valid laws and regulations. We must take another step forward in coordinating between the various state bodies and the public sector, and in raising the standard of the current good relations between these bodies and the citizens. We are asked to meet the aspirations of the people's sons for better development in all aspects of their lives. We are also asked to embody the important and specific directives of the people's leader, President Hafiz al-Asad.

Then the Council of Ministers made a comprehensive review of the various topics pertaining to the economic, social, administrative, and legislative issues and the different aspects of services. The Council also discussed the items on the agenda.

After the discussion, the Council approved a draft decision to amend two articles of the general penal code, and a draft decision to amend an article of the service law for NCO's and soldiers. The Council also approved two draft decisions to endorse two loan agreements with the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, a draft decision to endorse implementing the program in the health field with the CSSR, and a draft decision to amend the ninth article of the credit law for teachers' housing.

USSR Envoy Conveys CPSU Message to Ba'th Party

JN130927 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0850 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus, 13 Apr (SANA) — Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received Felix Fedotov, the USSR ambassador in Damascus, this morning. They discussed relations of cooperation and friendship between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the CPSU.

The ambassador conveyed a message from the CPSU Central Committee to the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Command on cooperation between the two parties.

Economic Meeting Held With USSR Delegation

JN131436 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1328 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus, 13 Apr (SANA) — A meeting was held here today between the Syrian Arab delegation led by Hamid Mir'i, assistant minister of state for planning affairs, and the Soviet delegation led by Vladimir Mordvinov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations.

During the meeting, they discussed economic and technical cooperation between the two countries, and the ways to promote and bolster them in accordance with the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation and the agreements of economic and technical cooperation signed between the two countries.

The friendly Soviet delegation arrived in Damascus yesterday evening.

Soviet Tourism Official Visits Damascus

Meets With Al-Daqr

JN131518 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1331 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus, 13 Apr (SANA) — Today Tourism Minister Dr Nawras al-Daqr and (Eduard Polislavich Frudman), Deputy of the USSR minister of tourism [name and title as received], who is currently visiting Syria, reviewed the ways of promoting and bolstering tourist exchange along with the programs of the expected visits by mutual tourist groups between the two countries.

The two sides also discussed the possibility of technical cooperation, including the creation of joint tourist projects and the promotion of Al-Asad Lake through the use of advanced Soviet expertise in the tourist field.

A protocol for tourist cooperation between Syria and the Soviet Union will be signed tomorrow, Sunday.

Minutes of Meetings Signed

JN151854 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1352 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus, 15 Apr (SANA) — The minutes of the meetings between the Syrian and USSR delegations to benefit from

Soviet expertise in building and promoting tourist centers in Syria and to encourage maritime visits and tourist air travel between the two friendly countries were signed here today. The minutes were signed for the Syrian side by Diyab Sahyun, assistant minister of tourism, and for the Soviet side by (Eduard Polislavich), deputy chairman of the state organization for tourism. [name and title as received].

The two sides also agreed to open tourist information offices in Damascus and Moscow in implementation of the 1984 tourist cooperation agreement concluded between the two countries, and to host Soviet reporters and photographers in order to prepare programs on Syria's tourism potential. They agreed to hold the second Syrian-USSR meeting in Moscow next year. The USSR delegation left Damascus for Moscow at noon today.

Workers Delegation Leaves For Hungary 15 Apr

JN151032 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0855 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus, 15 Apr (SANA) — Comrade 'Izz al-Din Nasir, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command and chairman of the General Federation of Trade Unions, left Damascus this morning at the head of a workers delegation on an official visit to the Hungarian People's Republic to attend the 32d session of the WFTU Executive Bureau.

TISHRIN Discusses Murphy's Mideast Tour

JN120600 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 12 Apr 85

[From the press review]

[Text] In a commentary headlined "Useless Tours," *TISHRIN* says: Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state, has begun his tour of the region in order to discuss what was termed as the latest developments of the U.S. peace efforts. Earlier, 'Arafat arrived in Amman and met with King Husayn; this was amid reports indicating that, during his tour, Murphy will meet with the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that will be entrusted with the task of liquidating the Palestine question according to the Reagan plan and the Camp David accords. Moreover, Egyptian President Mubarak has invited Zionist Minister 'Ezra Weizman to visit Cairo next week.

Naturally, the basic aim of these meetings and contacts is to arrange roles in preparation for the stage that will follow Murphy's tour, especially since this tour is primarily aimed at fixing the date and program for the anticipated meeting between King Husayn and Zionist Prime Minister Shim'on Peres. It can be said that this U.S. envoy's tour involves many facts on the level of the scheme aimed at obliterating the Palestine question after the Amman and Cairo regimes, as well as 'Arafat's clique, have played the role drawn up for them and have transferred the remaining tasks to the U.S. Administration so that it can take the appropriate measures.

AL-BA'TH Hits Israel's 'Buffer Zone' in Lebanon

JN151233 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0745 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Damascus, 15 Apr (SANA) — *AL-BA'TH* says that by its invasion of Lebanon, Israel tried to revive in the region the myth of superiority which our hero fighters destroyed in the October liberation war.

In a commentary under the headline "No to the Buffer Zone," *AL-BA'TH* adds: Before and after the invasion, Israel has not stopped its attempts to restore the myth of illusion. The iron fist policy in the south is the best example of the psychological warfare accompanying the barbaric massacres committed against the civilians; this is with the aim of convincing the Arab masses of the infeasibility of resistance and making them recognize the fait accompli prevailing in the area, starting with the establishment of the buffer zone in southern Lebanon and ending with the recognition of the Zionist entity.

AL-BA'TH adds: We are saying this at a time when there is increased talk of a buffer zone to guarantee the security of the settlements in Galilee. Israel also claims that this talk, in which more than one party has participated, has gone beyond the limits of mere reports to the stage of practical implementation; the invaders began establishing military bases and recuriting mercenaries in agent Lahd's army in preparation for first unilaterally announcing the buffer zone and then imposing it as a fait accompli.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* says: The myth that was destroyed in the October liberation war is still under the rubble and its collapse is emphasized daily by the heroic deeds of the Lebanese resistance. No matter how much Israel publicizes the buffer zone whether by words or deeds, the Lebanese resistance has proven its superiority and its ability to blow up the buffer zone with all its equipment and agents.

Peres, Mubarak Agree To Solve Disputes

TA151614 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Egyptian President Mubarak have agreed to solve the problems between the two countries, and have expressed great interest in a summit meeting to discuss these issues. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that in the past few days Peres and Mubarak exchanged personal messages through the Egyptian charge d'affaires in Israel.

Peres, Shamir Meet Murphy in Jerusalem

TA151607 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] A meeting at the Prime Minister's Office between U.S. envoy Richard Murphy, and Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has ended. Murphy said that his current trip is an exploratory tour of the Middle East capitals. Peres reiterated Israel's opposition to an international conference. He does not think that King Husayn needs the PLO's consent. In his opinion, the Palestinian problem, but not that of the PLO, can be solved.

Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that Murphy did not bring a list of Palestinians with him who might participate in negotiations with Israel. Tomorrow the U.S. envoy will confer with the defense minister. Afterward, he will leave for Saudi Arabia and Egypt, and then return to Israel.

Minister Weizman Prepares To Leave for Cairo

Shamir Sees Trip as 'Worthless'

TA151532 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1405 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Minister 'Ezer Weizman leaves this evening for Cairo following the Cabinet's approval which was received through a telephone poll of the ministers. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel sums up the events leading up to the approval:

Thirteen ministers voted in favor of 'Ezer Weizman's trip to Egypt; 12 ministers voted against it, and demanded that the trip be postponed. The decision was determined by the vote of Minister of Religious Affairs Yosef Burg. It seems that this vote has thus removed the threat hinted at by the Prime Minister's Office to dissolve the national unity government if Weizman did not go to Cairo.

Regarding Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, the following statement was issued by his office a few minutes ago: Shamir does not think there is room for a crisis at the moment. In his opinion, Weizman's trip to Egypt today, in the wake of the debate in the Cabinet and inner Cabinet, is worthless and unimportant. Shamir asks: What value does a visit that is carried out through dubious tactics of the type we witnessed have? The statement says that there are no differences of opinion within the government over the need to improve Israeli-Egyptian relations. Today it is clear to the Egyptians also that this must be done through the regular channels of the two foreign ministries, and that nothing is gained by seeking unusual channels.

This was a statement by the office of Foreign Mvnister Yitzhaq Shamir. Now we will hear the brief remarks made by the hero of the event, Minister 'Ezer Weizman, at the conclusion of the case:

[Begin recording] With the cabinet's approval, I am on my way to Ben-Gurion Airport and will leave for Cairo on a goodwill mission. I will see you when I return on Thursday. [end recording]

Weizman Comments on Trip

TA151929 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1730 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Interview with Minister 'Ezer Weizman by Menashe Raz at Ben-Gurion Airport prior to Weizman's departure for Egypt — live]

[Raz] Is business also discussed during a private visit, a goodwill mission? Are political discussions held?

[Weizman] Definitely. Any minister who visits a foreign country and is asked a few questions answers them within the framework of the government's policy.

I am leaving on a goodwill mission with the Cabinet's approval. It is true that the vote was determined by a slight majority. I think there is much good that needs to be done based on the peace accords between us and Egypt, and in order to do this, one needs a lot of goodwill. I will combine good and goodwill during this visit.

[Raz] Do we not have an official, the foreign minister, to do this?

[Weizman] Of course we have a foreign minister, and I certainly do not want to step on his toes. There have been similar cases in the past when ministers were sent not necessarily in their official capacity. For example, when I was defense minister, more than once I was sent to Egypt by the Israeli Government, with Mr Begin's approval of course, to settle the issue of the oil agreements between us . I was the one who finalized the issue, even though there was an oil minister, Mr Moda'i. Thus, things such as these have occurred in the past.

First and foremost, a national assessment should be made as to what can promote political arrangements between us and the Arab countries. I can make a small but specific contribution, and it was up to the prime minister to decide on it. Unfortunately, the argument became long and tiresome, but ultimately, I do not intend to step on anyone's toes. I will try to do everything in my power to represent the Israeli Government, in strict accordance with the definition of a goodwill mission.

[Raz] Does this argument not make things somewhat difficult for you and for the visit itself insofar as the Egyptians are concerned?

[Weizman] I almost wanted to say: On the contrary. To a certain extent, I can confront my Egyptian friends today and tell them that the issue is not so simple. In Israel there is a legitimate and poignant argument. I respect all those who voted against the trip, even if their reasons were personal. I think their reasons were not personal, but rather substantial. I can show the Egyptian president and my other friends there that we can progress, that the goodwill to make progress exists, but that this is not easy because opinions in the State of Israel are divided on several issues.

[Raz] Foreign Minister and Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said today that this visit is worthless and unimportant, and that you in fact do not represent the whole Israeli Cabinet.

[Weizman] With all due respect, I do not want to argue with the foreign minister through the media. Usually, whenever I left on a mission, whether as an Air Force pilot or on a political mission, the results were judged after the mission, and not before.

[Raz] Will you return with an agreement on a summit meeting between Peres and Mubarak?

[Weizman] When I return, I will tell you.

Kimche States Readiness To Talk With Lebanon

TA151058 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Israel is ready to resume negotiations with Lebanon to achieve an agreement on security arrangements following its withdrawal. This was stated today by David Kimche, Foreign Ministry director general, at a meeting with 11 ambassadors representing member-states of the UN Security Council and participants in the UNIFIL forces. Kimche made it clear that Israel would have preferred withdrawal within the framework of an agreement with Lebanon, as this would have given UNIFIL a positive role and filled the vacuum which now exists between Israel and Lebanon. Kimche stressed that Israel is ready to return to Al-Naqurah or another venue, and believes an agreement is essential to provide an effective role for UNIFIL. Israel will not oppose the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate that says without agreement with Lebanon, the present role of UNIFIL must remain limited. Reporter Ruth Blaukopf adds that contacts between Israeli officials and the United Nations are continuing on the possibility of the renewal of negotiations between Israel and Lebanon.

Rabin Confers with U.S. Navy Secretary

TA151611 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] During his meeting this afternoon with the U.S. secretary of the Navy, John Lehman, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin raised the issue of the Israeli Navy's future requirements. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the U.S. secretary was the guest of the defense establishment this afternoon, and heard reviews by the Defense Ministry director general, the chief of staff, and IDF generals. Tomorrow, Lehman will be guest of the Navy, and later during his visit, he will also tour the Israel aircraft industries, the Israel military industry, and an Air Force base built by the Americans in the Negev.

IDF To Maintain Permanent Presence in Security Strip

TA150527 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0405 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The IDF will soon enter the security strip beyond the international border, where it will stay for about a month. At the beginning of May it will withdraw to the international border. However, senior security sources say the IDF will continue to maintain a permanent presence in the security strip, too. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports on this:

Although the intention is to base the defense of the security zone beyond the international border on local forces, senior security sources believe that even after the completion of the withdrawal, there will be IDF activity and a permanent IDF presence in the security strip. The civil guards will be busy defending their villages, and it is doubtful whether what is left of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] will be capable of carrying out routine security activity. The IDF will shortly withdraw from Jabal al-Baruk and Jazzin. In the past, too, decisions to carry out the withdrawal from various zones were made with very little advance warning, moving the timetable forward. The IDF will also leave Tyre and its environs within a short time. The intention is to move the IDF into the area that will be the security zone, and for the forces to remain there until work on the international border line is completed. The IDF will also evacuate that strip during the first week of June [as heard], although, as I said, security sources say there will be no alternative to continuing to maintain routine activity and a permanent IDF presence in the security strip as well.

Moda'i Meets With U.S. Congressional Delegation

TA151200 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 15 Apr 85 p 2

[Report by Amnon Atad and Sylvan Shalom]

[Excerpt] The Americans have revoked some preliminary demands they set as a condition for extending emergency aid to Israel. This is the conclusion reached by the Israeli team, led by Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i, that met in Jerusalem yesterday with members of the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee.

The Israelis who participated in the meeting got the impression that the Americans are no longer demanding that a large devaluation be effected or that the linkage system in the economy be canceled. According to them, the Americans have accepted the Israeli stance that the solution to the economic problems will be attained gradually and not with one swift move. The U.S. congressmen, led by David Obey, arrived in Israel in order to decide whether Israel should be given additional aid of $1.5 billion: $0.8 billion in the current fiscal year and an additional $0.7 billion next year. The U.S. delegation did not undertake to have the aid approved, pointing to the U.S. economic difficulties that make a decision on the issue more difficult. The delegation members are also afraid that the emergency aid will in fact turn into additional aid for many years to come. They said they intended to closely follow the economic measures adopted by the government.

A discussion of the U.S. emergency aid was also held in the Cabinet meeting yesterday. The finance minister arrived at the meeting escorted by the Finance Ministry's leadership: Finance Ministry Director General 'Imanu'el Sharon, Aharon Fogel, the head of the Budget Department; Yehuda Drori, the commissioner of the Capital Market, Insurance and Savings Department; and Bank of Israel Governor Moshe Mandelbaum. The Finance Ministry officials said that the additional U.S. aid is vital due to the further decline expected in foreign currency reserves. According to them, the Finance Ministry discussed the 10-point document presented by the Americans as a condition for extending the aid, and some of the recommendations have been accepted.

Further Reportage on Economic Situation

Consumer Price Index Rises

TA151422 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The consumer price index increased by 12.1 percent in March. Salaried employees will consequently get an 8.4-percent increase in their next paychecks and the tax brackets will be adjusted in order not to erode the increase. The travel tax will go up tomorrow and travelers will have to pay 139,930 shekels. According to the Central Bureau of Statistics, prices went up in all categories, but housing and food costs were particularly affected.

Our correspondent on economic affairs Gadi Sukenik reports that since the beginning of 1985 the rate of inflation has increased by approximately 40 percent; this represents an annual rate of inflation of approximately 225 percent, or about half the rate of inflation in 1984. The index for March 1985 is the highest ever recorded for this month since the establishment of the State of Israel. Histadrut Secretary General Yisra'el Qeysar has said that this high index could have been avoided if the finance minister and the government had acted wisely instead of raising the prices of subsidized commodities, as was the case toward the end of March. Qeysar called for returning to the format of the first package deal, namely, imposing a general freeze on all prices. The Finance Ministry argues that the index is lower than had been expected and it proves that the public has been behaving responsibly and has contributed to slowing down the rate of inflation.

High Income Surtax Expires

TA160642 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Apr 85 p 1

[Report by the economic affairs correspondent]

[Excerpt] Expiration of the 6 per cent surtax on the incomes of the country's 12,000 highest earners (both salaried and self-employed) means that they will pay less monthly income tax than they did in the past fiscal year.

Government sources said the initiative not to renew the surtax, which expired at the end of March, came from Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i and State Revenues Commissioner Yisra'el Baron.

The surtax had been imposed last year by former Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad.

All incomes over IS2,948,000 a month were charged with the 6 per cent surtax up to the end of March.

The sources indicated that the ministry will lose revenue worth some $6.25 million in the 1985/86 fiscal year because the surtax has not been renewed.

Discussed in Cabinet Session

TA141136 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] In today's Cabinet session, Treasury officials reviewed the economic situation in Israel from the beginning of the decade to the present. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik says that, from the figures presented, the situation became worse at the beginning of this year in some central areas of the economy. The present rate of inflation is unstable and can easily deteriorate. It was also said that even if the national budget is strictly adhered to and all the plans are implemented, the situation will improve only slightly this year, and it appears that foreign currency reserves will drop by $300 million. According to the Bank of Israel governor, however, even this forecast is optimistic. Shim'on Peres decided that the government will discuss today's figures in its next session.

Our correspondent reports that in today's session the Cabinet approved the new income tax laws, and they will be presented for Knesset approval this Wednesday. Some of the ministers, including Qatzav, Pat, and Shapira, said following the session that a very serious picture has emerged from today's briefing, and in their opinion the Treasury's plans are not enough.

Electronic Warfare Collection System Developed

TA151338 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Apr 85 p 3

[Report by Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Text] Tadiran electronics company is involved in the process of developing and manufacturing various systems to supply solutions to operational problems in the field of control and supervision, and in the field of communications that were discussed within the framework of lessons learned from the Lebanon war. Among other things Tadiran is developing a collection system in the field of electronic warfare, capable of giving a commander in the field a sharply defined picture of targets during battles.

One of the systems which represents a breakthrough is the "Image," also known as ITS. This system makes it possible to send pictures of actual events, as they happen, to the commanders in the field. The technological breakthrough in this system is the ability to send the picture via the existing communications equipment. The picture is sent by digital means, which eliminates the need for antennas or transmission bands different from those currently in use.

Thus, for example, using the ITS system, it is possible to send a live relay of the picture a drone receives to the commander's vehicles on the frontline. The system is generating great interest among many armies and it seems that its export potential is quite good. As far as is known, this Tadiran system is the only one of its type in the world in anything involving military and operational use.

MAPAM, Labor MK's Leave for Socialist Conference

TA150828 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] MAPAM Secretary General El'azar Granot and Knesset Member [MK] Nava Arad from the Labor Party are leaving for Brussels today, to participate in a conference of leaders of Socialist International. The main topics on the agenda are matters involving the arms race; the question of the development of space weapons is also expected to be raised. On this matter there are differences of opinion between MAPAM and the Labor Party. The Labor Party leans toward a positive Israeli response to the U.S. invitation to participate in the development of these weapons, while MAPAM is against Israel's participation as a national entity. However, MK's Granot and Arad told our correspondent Gid'on Remez that they will try to formulate a common stand. They may be satisfied with an announcement that the U.S. invitation is being considered and no decision has yet been made. There may also be a renewal of the activity of the committee responsible for Middle East affairs, headed by Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares, at the conference of Socialist International.

Commentaries View Government Effectiveness, Concensus

TA160628 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0330 GMT 16 Apr 85

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *DAVAR* writes that the incidents of the last 2 days in the government have in fact heightened the feeling that this is an artificial government and it is out of the question that it will serve its full term. There can certainly be no progress toward any peace process during its tenure. In view of yesterday's index, which mirrors the finance minister's incorrect policy, there is a growing feeling that the government will have no economic achievements to cover up the political deadlock. It is possible to debate certain legal aspects of yesterday's telephone vote approving Weizman's trip to Egypt. This, however, would be a futile exercise, because the problem is not judicial but political. It was obvious in advance that the government would be paralyzed on many disputed issues between the Likud and the Alignment, but the last 2 days have highlighted this fact.

THE JERUSALEM POST writes that ultimately it will not be the existing differences within Israel's party structure and body politic that will determine the equation of consensus. That will depend even more profoundly on the readiness of the Arab states to make peace and to prove this to the people of Israel with whom, besides Egypt, they have only made war. Then, there would undoubtedly emerge the very public consensus that is not in sight today, relegating congenital nay-sayers to their proper size.

West Bank Ties of Jordanian Cabinet Members Noted

TA140935 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 14 Apr 85 p 7

[Commentary by Dani Rubinstein: "The West Bank's 'Mini-Cabinet' "]

[Text] At the beginning of last week, the East Jerusalem paper *AL-QUDS* carried a series of congratulatory messages to King Husayn and his new Cabinet that was formed at the end of the previous week. In the past also such messages have appeared in similar circumstances, but this time there were far more of them. What was prominent about them was that those doing the welcoming were representatives of the most traditional groups in the West Bank, whose influence is not considered to be particularly significant. [sentence as published] They included messages from the municipalities of Jericho, Janin, and Qalqilyah, whose mayors were appointed by the Israeli Administration; and messages from small municipalities and several rural councils: Yattah (southern Hebron hills); Nabatiyah (Janin District); Al-Ram (northeast Jerusalem), and more.

The paper *AL-QUDS*, which is the largest paper in the territories and is considered to be a supporter of the Jordanian regime, prominently featured a picture of the new prime minister, Zayd al-Rifa'i, who is known to be a close personal friend of the king, and pictures of the ministers, of whom 11 (of the 23 members of Parliament) are Palestinians.

There have always been Palestinians in Jordanian Governments, but they have generally been the representatives of traditional groups and families considered to be loyal to the regime. This time what is striking is the representation of young people with prestige, and skilled technocrats, all of them with strong ties to their families in the West Bank. Some of them spent several years under Israeli rule and hold identity cards issued by the Israeli Administration in the territories or East Jerusalem. All of them have visited the West Bank and Israel many times and are very well acquainted with the reality in the territories and Israel. Exaggerating only slightly, the 11 Palestinian ministers in Rifa'i's Cabinet could be called a 'mini-cabinet' from the West Bank. There is no doubt that such a Cabinet composition in Amman is a challenge to the PLO and more than a hint to the Israeli Government about preparations for negotiations in the future.

I have collected several details about the Palestinian ministers in the new government and their links with the West Bank.

Tahir al-Masri is the minister of foreign affairs. He was also minister of foreign affairs in the previous government. He comes from the Al-Masri family of Nabulus, which is conventionally regarded as the strongest and most influential family in the West Bank. His father is (Nash'at) al-Masri, who lives in Nabulus (sick and confined to bed). His father's two brothers are Hikmat al-Masri, a member of the Jordanian Senate and former speaker of Parliament, who lives in Nabulus; and Zafir al-Masri, the deputy mayor of Nabulus and a well-established businessman who is active in the initiative to establish an Arab bank in the West Bank. He has visited the West Bank several times in the past.

Riyad al-Shak'ah, the minister of justice, is also from Nabulus. His father, 'Adil al-Shak'ah, is a wealthy man who lives in Nabulus and has been a member of the municipal council for many years together with the brother of Bassam al-Shak'ah, the dismissed mayor of Nabulus. The new justice minister lived in the West Bank under Israeli rule for about 6 years (up to the Yom Kippur war) and held an Israeli Administration identity card. He ran a lawyers' office in Nabulus.

Hazim Nusaybah, the minister of state for prime ministry affairs, is the brother of Anwar Nusaybah from East Jerusalem. He visited Jerusalem and Israel after 1967, was the Jordanian ambassador to the United Nations, and has family ties with the Al-Masri family (his wife is Hikmat al-Masri's sister).

Farhi 'Ubayd, the minister of transport, comes from Hebron. His brother, Dr Yasir 'Ubayd, is the most well-known figure in the administration of the West Bank and serves as the head of the health services in Judaea and Samaria.

Hisham al-Khatib, the minister of energy, originates from Hebron. After 1967 he lived in Jerusalem and worked as an engineer for the East Jerusalem Electric Corporation, so he has the identity card of an Israeli citizen. He left East Jerusalem in 1972 and moved to Amman.

Tahir Kan'an, the minister of occupied territories affairs, is the son of Hamdi Kan'an of Nabulus, who was the Nabulus mayor for the first 5 years of Israeli rule. He studied in Beirut, worked in Kuwait, and visited here many times. He recently visited Nabulus, about 6 weeks, ago, and is very well informed about what happens in Israel, too.

Sami Jawdah, the minister of state for parliamentary affairs, comes from Sinjil, a village facing Shilo in Samaria. He lived for a short time in Gaza, after 1967, and moved to Jordan. He is married to Zayd al-Rifa'i's sister.

Muhyi al-Din al-Husayni, the minister of communications, comes from the famous East Jerusalem Al-Husayni family, and has often visited Jerusalem and the West Bank.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khayyat, the minister of awqaf (religious affairs), is a cleric from Nabulus. He has visited the West Bank and Israel many times and lived in Nabulus for a short time after 1967. In the past he served as minister of awqaf twice.

Muhammad al-Khatib, the minister of information comes from Ramallah. He has visited the territories and Israel at least once since 1967.

Commentary Analyzes Syrian Intentions in Lebanon

TA151417 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
15 Apr 85 p 10

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "Within the Range of Katyushas"]

[Text] The katyushas have moved closer to Israel's northern border, even before the IDF has completed its evacuation of Lebanon. Despite this, the terrorists are not using them against targets in Israel. They prefer to focus on the Israeli targets still left in Lebanon, the units currently engaged in the final stage of the withdrawal. This quiet on the border is not accidental. A sharp argument has been raging lately among the Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] followers, namely those who rebelled against 'Arafat,and Syrian-supported Shi'ite terrorists; this is between those who believe terrorist activity against the Jewish population in the Galilee should be launched immediately, and those who express the fear that such activity may unite the Israelis and cause a delay in the withdrawal from Lebanon.

Hafiz al-Asad did indeed tell a U.S. statesman who recently visited him that he will not allow the terrorists in Lebanon to dictate the date of the unavoidable military confrontation with Israel. He wants to determine the time, when he concludes that he has reached a strategic balance with Israel. On the other hand, it is known that various kinds of terrorists have recently enjoyed Syrian Army briefings. The terrorists are controlled by the Syrians, and in exchange for this control the Syrians also have to grant the various terrorist organizations some aid, and it is possible that the katyushas in the north are silent now following advice from Damascus, which views the IDF evacuation from Lebanon as its strategic achievement.

A rapid evacuation from Lebanon may aid the Syrians in the ideological struggle they are currently waging against those in the Arab world who believe in a political solution to the Israeli-Arab conflict. While Mubarak, Husayn, and 'Arafat are planning the political moves — how to bring about U.S. pressure on Israel and force Israel to withdraw to the pre-1967 lines — Al-Asad wants to demonstrate another way of pushing the IDF out of its positions. The IDF is withdrawing from Lebanon; no concessions were made to Israel and no negotiations were held with Israel, directly or indirectly. The Syrian president wants to confront the Arab leaders with the fact that only by way of consistent provocations and constant intransigence in the face of attempts at persuasion by mediators is it possible to turn an Israeli military victory, the capture of the Damascus-Beirut highway, into a political failure strengthening Syria's status in Lebanon relative to what it had enjoyed on the eve of the Peace for Galilee operation. Al-Asad therefore does not want to get entangled in any move that might delay the IDF evacuation even a little. He needs to prove this successful model for Israeli withdrawal now most of all, when U.S. envoy Richard Musphy is beginning his round of talks in the Middle East. He is even prepared to receive the U.S. envoy, known to him since his service as the U.S. ambassador in Damascus; however, he does not forget to delcare in advance that Syria's stance regarding a political solution to the conflict is well-known and cannot be changed. He has "the proven formula" for a solution. He does not need mediators nor formulas to camouflage a PLO delegation that would be approved by the United States to take part in the negotiations.

He wants to prove the correctness of his formula for Israel's defeat — no negotiations, mediation, or any concession — by compelling Israel to accelerate the evacuation of Lebanon.

Therefore, he has prevented any move that might disrupt proving the correctness of his course.

This Syrian consideration has postponed any firing of katyushas at the Galilee for the time being. However, the danger is that once the evacuation is completed this consideration may disappear and katyushas will again be fired across the border.

The security strip that will be manned by the army of southern Lebanon cannot be a substitute for the current brake . The ASL, which controlled a larger number of Shi'ite villages, was numerically stronger and capable of withstanding the Palestinian terrorists arriving from the outside and triggering the hatred of local residents.

Under the new circumstances, the southern Lebanese militia will have to cope with local gangs of Shi'ite terrorists or kamikaze fighters, members of the "National Syrian Social Party" who have a stronghold inside the southern Lebanese villages. Their mission will then be more difficult and their numerical strength reduced.

Under the circumstances, the Israeli Government will have to reassess the pros and cons of the proposed security strip.

A reassessment of this concept may prompt the IDF to think that even an international factor that is considered a helpful and stabilizing factor in the security strip, the UN force, is completely unnecessary and even disruptive.

It is no accident that this time the Lebanese Government rushed to ask for a renewed mandate for the UN force in Lebanon. The Lebanese Government is not free today to decide anything without the approval of Damascus, and it is the Syrian Government that is now interested in stationing a political obstacle to Israel's freedom of reaction in southern Lebanon if hostile forces harrass Israel with katyushas and artillery across the border. Syria does not want the various terrorist groups to dictate the time for a military confrontation with Israel, but when the IDF evacuates southern Lebanon it will not care if the terrorist organizations harrass Israel, provided that the IDF is barred from freedom of action and reaction in Lebanon.

It is to this end that Damascus encouraged the Amin al-Jumayyil government to ask for an extension of the UN mandate. If Israel relies on the security zone the UN force will be able to make some contribution, but without the security zone the UN force will only be a shelter for the katyusha launchers.

Disagreement Over Settlement Establishment Examined

TA140725 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
14 Apr 85 p 7

[Commentary by Yehuda Litani: "Too Little, Too Late"]

[Text] In internal talks not for quotation or attribution, the senior Alignment ministers who actually stopped settlement in the territories during the period of the national unity government, praise themselves. In contrast to this, the Likud ministers point to the coalition agreement regarding the establishment of six new settlements and a further expansion of those in existence as glowing testimony of the fact that settlement in the territories has been continuing and will continue. The truth, as usual, is somewhere in between: Some of settlement activity and initiatives have been stopped; some are going on.

The establishment of new settlements has almost been stopped (apart from six which have not yet been established), but work on and expansion of the existing settlements continues. The infrastructure of these settlements is sufficient to double or even triple the current number of settlers in the West Bank (between 42,000 and 44,000 settlers). The Ministry of Housing and Construction headed by David Levi is continuing to build thousands of houses and pave dozens of kilometers of various types of roads in the West Bank. In the regions most in demand for the establishment of homes and residential areas in the West Bank — the ring surrounding Jerusalem and the area close to the coastal plain — work is going on at full speed.

Despite the economic crisis looming on the horizon, the scenery is changing rapidly, especially in the completely urban settlements such as Ma'ale Adummim, Efrat, 'Immanu'el, and Alfe Menashe. Since most of the West Bank has been opened for Israeli settlement, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin is concentrating his fight on the attempts to settle in the centers of Arab towns, mainly in Hebron and Nabulus.

No serious settlement attempt has as yet been made in Nabulus (other than rumors about attempts to purchase houses from Arabs living in Nabulus). Nevertheless, the possibility cannot be dismissed that there will be a resumption of these attempts in the next few months. The fight is now concentrated on a site that has been turned into a symbol: Khirbat al-Rumaythah, in the heart of Hebron.

Last week the matter again made headlines when BETAR [Herut youth movement] members tried to "conquer the mountain" and inaugurate the offices of World BETAR, together with what they called the "Town of Education" [qiryat hinukh]. Minister Moshe Arens was asked by Yitzhaq Rabin not to attend the ceremony in Khirbat Al-Rumaythah. However, he went to Hebron and took part in the ceremony held in a substitute site: the Makhpelah Cave. There, facing the television cameras and 200 BETAR members who had gathered there, Arens declared that halting the work in Khibat al-Rumaythah contradicted the coalition agreement signed between the Alignment and the Likud prior to the establishment of the national unity government.

Professor Arens is scheduled to raise the matter today at the Cabinet session, and he will claim that when a decision was made to continue to expand the existing settlements, there was a specific mention of settlement activities in Hebron also, and any ban on this by the defense minister contradicts the agreement. The defense minister claims that the decision to establish the Khirbat al-Rumaythah settlement was not made by a government forum, but was a recommendation by the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs; in fact, it was a decision made by an individual, former Minister Prof Yuval Ne'eman.

Rabin based his decision on facts. At the beginning of this year the Khirbat al-Rumaythah site was declared a protected archaeological site and any additional building there was banned, whether by Jews or Arabs. (Khirbat al-Rumaythah is the site of ancient Hebron and archaeological digs took place there in the 1940's, during the British mandate period. The digs were recently resumed by the Company for Research Into Eretz Yisra'el and its Antiquities.)

The settlers from Qiryat Arba' and Hebron — who have been the spearhead of militant settlement ever since the 1960's — did not accept the defense minister's decision as a pronouncement from heaven and began to fight it on several planes. A settlement lobby was activated in the Knesset and the Cabinet, in addition to an attempt to expand the settlements in the field. So far these attempts have not been crowned with success.

Nevertheless, the most successful attempt to date by the settlers was their achievement in harnessing the Herut youth movement, BETAR, and incorporating it into their attempts to fight in Khirbat al-Rumaythah. The opening of the BETAR offices in Khirbat al-Rumaythah is now requiring the Likud minister to go out, shoulder to shoulder, to the fight. It is now a question of the power and the very flesh of the main party in the Likud, and the youth movement that bears the name given it by the party's first leader, Ze'ev Jabotinsky.

This is no longer a fight between Elyaqim Ha'etzani and Moshe Levinger on the one hand and Yitzhaq Rabin and the defense establishment on the other, but between the Likud and the Alignment in the national unity government.

Yitzhaq Rabin is determined not to permit the settlers to expand the tiny settlement (seven trailers and huts) that is located in the heart of an Arab quarter there, and it seems he will not give up easily. He knows that a surrender to the Khirbat al-Rumaythah settlers, like the surrender to the settlers in Qadum when he was prime minister, would pave the way for settlement not only in each and every site in Hebron, but would also be a signal for the start of a fight in Nabulus. It appears that Rabin does not want to repeat the drama that occurred at the old Turkish railroad station in Sabastiyah 8 years ago when the signal was given for settlement throughout Samaria.

The defense minister's obduracy is not just over a symbol, but substance: no longer permitting settlement in the heart of densely populated Arab areas and particularly not in regions with growth potential, such as Hebron and Nabulus. However, this fight is apparently taking place in one of the latest stages of settlement activity in the territories, after some 150 settlements have been established with more than 40,000 settlers ; after more than 50 percent of the West Bank land and a third of that of the Gaza Strip have been put under Israeli control, direct or indirect; and after most of the Arab villages and towns have been surrounded by Israeli settlements and their inhabitants have been stopped from cultivating the land near those settlements or building on it.

A genuine freeze on settlement is not done through declarations alone. Pli'a Albeck from the Ministry of Justice continues to declare each and every site in the West Bank to be "state land," generally for the establishment of further settlements in the future or to expand existing ones; David Levi continues to build houses and lay roads; and Matityahu Drobles from the Jewish Agency invests more and more money each day in the existing settlements. In such a situation, the matter cannot be regarded as "frozen." Yitzhaq Rabin's fight has been restricted to one aspect, an important one, it is true, but this is one aspect of the entire collection of settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The infrastructure established by the Likud during its 7 years in power was sufficient to provide the internal inertia [as published] for settlement activity — even without a government-directed push — over the next few years, too.

Therefore there should be no mistake; this cannot be considered a genuine ideological fight between opponents of settlement and its supporters. Yitzhaq Rabin as defense minister is interested, first and foremost, in not creating centers of ferment and rifts in the West Bank. He considers Khirbat al-Rumaythah to be such a center. For several years there have already been Israeli settlers in Hebron in the Bet Hadassah area, near the Avraham Avinu Synagogue, in Bet Romano, and elsewhere. They are living in an Arab residential area, surrounded on all sides by local inhabitants. The rifts and tension in Hebron are already a fait accompli. This fight cannot be compared with the conditions Rabin had as prime minister and Peres had as defense minister in Sabastiyah in 1977.

At that time, Samaria was empty of settlements and a decisive decision then would have stopped, or, at least, postponed the unavoidable continuation. The confrontation that will begin today in the Cabinet is a confrontation after the 12th hour: Solid facts have been determined and are being determined every day in the field. If Rabin succeeds in his fight over the question of Khirbat al-Rumaythah, he may, perhaps, prevent a similar fate for Nabulus and afterward Tulkarm and Janin. Maybe he will stop settlement in other Arab towns. No more than that.

ALGERIA

Interior Minister Meets With Mauritanian Counterpart

LD120917 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] At the Interior Ministry Mr Yala had talks today with his Mauritanian opposite number, Mr.Djibril Ould 'Abdallah. They spoke in particular about cooperation to be stepped up between the two countries in civil protection, administration and local collectivities. The two parties also discussed the possibility of carrying out exchanges in matters of local administration and development. The talks also enabled them to define a policy of development and of improvement of living standards in frontier areas.

EL MOUDJAHID: Joint Ties With Yugoslavia Boosted

PM121513 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 28 Mar 85 p 3

[APS report: "Joint Achievement and Production"]

[Text] Belgrade — The main result of the 3-day official friendly visit to Yugoslavia made by Abdelhamid Brahimi, candidate member of the Politburo and prime minister, is a qualitative improvement in economic cooperation between Algeria and Yugoslavia. Indeed, it can be said that this cooperation is due to move into a higher gear in that it will first enter a more complex dimension and, second, will be extended to many new sectors and expanded in the existing sectors.

This view of the future which plans to make Algerian-Yugoslav cooperation a model of the South-South relations which the seventh nonaligned summit had advocated as the vital prelude to the advent of a new world economic order will only require efforts on the part of the economists of the two countries since the political will exists and the interests of the two sides demand it.

Thus the current and future series of consultations between the two friendly and nonaligned countries, including this visit, which is part of a well-established tradition of high-level meetings between Algerian and Yugoslav officials, stems from this intention, and it will be up to the next session of the joint committee, due to take place in Algiers in mid-May, to finalize joint plans which have already been intensified, while establishing channels for future relations.

It is now known that this future meeting will relate to the pooling of human, technical, and material resources with a view to setting up joint companies, achieving greater complementarity of potential which could lead to the manufacture of products to be marketed in the two countries or in a third country, and on the exchange of components for a given product manufactured by the same technological process.

This is not a complete list, and the future looks promising in this sphere provided the two countries show imagination. What is certain is that Yugoslav enterprises in the water resources and public works sector operating in Algeria have shown their competence, competitiveness, and responsibility, and also that Yugoslav agriculture, engineering, processing, and petrochemical industries can transfer their technology since the Yugoslav market is capable of absorbing Algerian finished products.

In a world stricken by the effects of the economic crisis and by the egoism of the rich countries — a crisis which is having the severest effects on the developing countries — with an unfair international finance system which increases the latter's dependence by the increase in interest rates and the overvaluation of the dollar, the strengthening of South-South relations seems to be the nonaligned and developing countries' only chance of reducing their problems because it is a sovereign decision which is within their grasp. The principle was accepted [at the nonaligned summit] in New Delhi, And it only remains to implement it. This is what Algeria and Yugoslavia are doing.

Moreover, the political talks which the prime minister had with Milka Planinc, his counterpart; with Veselin Djuranovic, the president of the State Presidency; and Ali Sukrija, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, demonstrated the similarity of the two countries' positions on current international questions and their exemplary consultation on the eve of the Luanda nonaligned countries' ministerial meeting.

Joint Communique With Cape Verde Issued

LD160016 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] A joint communique has approved the Algerian-Cape Verdian talks between the FLN Party and the African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde in Algiers. The two political groups reaffirm their solidarity with the struggle of the Saharan people and stress that any solution to the problem of Western Sahara requires direct negotiations between the SDAR and Morocco in order to exercise the inviolable right of the Saharan people to self-determination and independence. They also support the fact that a just and long-lasting solution to the Chadian problem, requires noninterference in the domestic affairs of this country, respect for territorial integrity, national unity, and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Chad.

The FLN and the African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde note that various attempts are made here and there to dislocate African unity. The two parties condemn these maneuvers, and express their firm attachment to the OAU which remains the most appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of all inter-African problems.

On Algerian-Cape Verdian relations, Mr Olivio Perez, the official of the Secretariat of the African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde stressed that cooperation between the two parties was fruitful and profitable on several accounts because it gives useful and rich lessons. The gains of peace and [words indistinct] are all the more encouraging. Mr Olivio Perez also said that we will be able to draw lessons for the agricultural reform promulgated on the Cape Verdian Islands.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Hears Policies Acclaimed on Tour

LD150922 Tripoli JANA in English 0830 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 23, April 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — In the past two days, the leader of the revolution inspected the regions of Badr, Tiji, Nalut, Ulad Mahmud, Al Hawamid, Ribat, Rajban and R'yayna. Masses there joined the leader in demonstrations confirming people's authority and determination to realize more transformations as well as deep belief in the green ideology and the principles of the revolution. They chanted revolutionary slogans which speak of their strong belief in the struggle for people's authority and protection of revolutionary gains achieved thanks to the great Al Fateh revolution and its leader.

Lebanese CP Head Congratulates Al-Qadhdhafi on Sudan

LD150914 Tripoli JANA in English 0837 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Rajab, 15 April, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution has received a message of congratulations from George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party. The text reads as follows:-

Leader militant Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, commander in chief of the National Command for the Arab Revolutionary Forces: I have the honor to send you my warmest congratulations on the occasion of the downfall of Numayri puppet regime in our brotherly Sudan, asserting the might of the masses which toppled this dirty agent. It also reaffirms the correction of the path you have followed in Jamahiriyah and the role of the vigorous support you are giving to the Arab revolutionary forces.

[Signed] George Hawi, Secretary General of the Lebanese Communist Party.

Sudanese in Libya Warn Egypt Not To Interfere

LD131141 Tripoli JANA in English 0849 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 21, April 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Sudanese gathering on the Jamahiriyah's arena denounced the attitude of the agent head of the Egyptian regime towards the popular revolution in Sudan. They demanded the head of the Egyptian regime to stand trial on the horrific crimes he committed against this people's right.

The gathering abhorred the mean and deceiving propaganda and slander the media of the Egyptian regime spread against the 6th of April revolution which swept clean what has stained Sudan in the traitor Numayri era and the dirts of David's stable.

The Sudanese gathering on the Jamahiriyah arena confirmed that the Sudanese people is capable of defending its popular revolution. They warned the regime of agent Husni Mubarak from interfering in the Sudanese internal affairs.

AL-JAMAHIRIYAH on Mubarak's Sudan Statements

LD131643 Tripoli JANA in English 1417 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 21, April 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Revolutionary Committees newspaper *AL-JAMAHIRIYAH* published on Friday a commentary entitled "Rejected Egypt" in which it analyzed the hollow warnings by the head of the Egyptian regime concerning foreign interference in Sudan's affairs.

The paper said "Husni Mubarak provoked our anger when he issued his hollow warnings on what he calls the danger of foreign interference in Sudanese internal affairs as if Sudan, not only Egypt, was a farm he had inherited from the Late Al-Sadat or as if Sudanese Arabs had joined Egyptian Arabs to become against their will, citizens of the American crown.

"Meanwhile, these cowardly declarations draw our attention to a very important issue -- the Arab role of Egypt. This role enjoyed, during the revolution in Egypt, a shining and bright face. But, in reactionary Egypt nowadays, that role is shameful and despicable."

The paper pointed out that revolutionary Egypt was the center of focus for the Arab masses everywhere. Cairo was the center of the Arab people's hopes and aspirations in liberation, progress and unity as well as the first enemy of kings, presidents and princes who fear for their power whenever 'Abd al-Nasir made a speech. Cairo, then, spearheaded counter-attacks against America, its interests, agents and became the main shield against Zionist attacks.

The paper cited the Arab role of the Egyptian revolution in liberating Arab lands from the enemies recalling its stand by the Algerian revolution, the liberation battle of Benzert in Tunisia and its support to the revolution in Yemen, Bahrain and Oman.

AL-JAMAHIRIYAH stressed "it is impossible to record the honorable Arab role played by Egypt during the revolution in lines nor in hardbacks. [sentence as received] The Arab revolution in Egypt played, in every Arab inch, a vigorous role. The paper went on to say that in reactionary Egypt the picture was totally the opposite. In reactionary Egypt Cairo became the leisure center of Arab rulers and whenever the Arab masses try, in vain, to get the Arab voice radio station, they get the Voice of America from Cairo. In reacionary Egypt when the Egyptian weapons leave Egypt they go to Phalangist militias enabling them to hit the patriotic and unionist forces in Lebanon as it has already been revealed recently by an American secret document.

When the Egyptian soldiers goes to fight these days, he heads for Iraq to fight against the Iranian revolution instead of waging war against the Zionist enemy which is desecrating Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa Mosque.

In reactionary Egypt, the daily duty of the government clique is to call upon the Arab nation to surrender to Zionism and entice the Arabs to recognize the Jews' right to occupy more Arab lands and usurp Arab rights including the supply of them enemy [as received] with oil and the import of its foodstuffs within the framework of the normalization process. Egypt, which in the past destroyed alliances and fought against military bases, has become itself a base for the American Rapid Deployment Forces."

AL-JAMAHRIYAH concluded its commentary by saying "the Arab role of Egypt is, therefore, very dangerous, it is civilized and progressive if revolution is prevalent. But, it is subversive and destructive when Egypt, as it is the case now, is under reactionary rule. But Arab unionists, especially the Egyptians amongst them, will never accep nor recognize any other role than the Arab one for Egypt. Indeed, they refuse the supremacy of any Arab part, including Egypt, over the Arab nation. For the first and real loyalty must be to the Arab nation and its unity."

The Sudanese people is well aware that those who wasted the resources of Sudan, through dubious deals be it Numayri, Mubarak or Khashoggi, are merely tools executing the American desires in impoverishing the people and making them hungry in a bid to make it bow to Washington's will.

The Sudanese people reject this arrogance and humiliating view of Egyptian rulers on Sudan which is in fact a natural extension to that held by pre-1952 Egyptian kings when the Khadir in Abidin Palace used to treat Sudan -- people and territory -- as a part of the Egyptian crown despite the fact that Egyptian resources come from Sudan and not vice versa. Nile comes to Egypt from Sudan.

The 6th April is a dual lesson. It affirms that the Sudanese people is able to settle the conflict to his favor and to topple any agent plotter against this people and the capabilities of Sudan. It is also a lesson to anyone in the White House or the Egyptian capital thinking it easy to impose further options upon the Sudanese people rather than those it has already chosen for itself. The day the Sudanese people decides to settle its scores with its enemies inside and outside the country, the bilateral defense pacts and the International Monetary Fund which is run by the United States of America would not stand in its way. The head of the Egyptian regime should understand the meaning of the outbreak of the Sudanese people as his luck would not be better than that of Numayri whom he is protecting and soon both of them will start looking for another country for their refuge as the forthcoming Egyptian people's revolution will eradicate them.

Agent Mubarak should know that the Great 1st September Revolution will continue to instigate the Arab masses for revolution in each Arab country ruled by rotten reactionary regimes and that the revolution is after them until the Arab nation is free of these rulers and power is taken back by the masses of the Arab people setting up a united Jamahiriyah state in which there will be no place for tyrants, partisans, reactionaries or defeatists. Morning is their time and it is very close.

Egypt, U.S. Responsible for Sudan's Suffering
LD142104 Tripoli JANA in English 1746 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 22, April 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — A state of panic has set in among circles of the traitor Egyptian regime since the popular revolution spoiled its policies by putting an end to the American puppet regime in Sudan. Arab people in Egypt themselves suffering from Mubarak's policy of tutelage and oppression now know the new role designed for Mubarak vis-a-vis the revolution in Sudan. Shocked by the support of Sudanese Armed Forces to the people on April 6, the American Administration delegated to Mubarak's regime the role of containing the revolution in this Arab country and causing problems to it. In effect, America's agent media Mubarak are recently concentrating on two points: Attempts to attack Libya and to prevent the spread of revolution from Sudan to Egypt. Meanwhile, observers concluded that more problems for Mubarak's regime are ahead. As hopes to reinstate Numayri are shattered the Sudanese people are serious in demanding that Numayri should stand trial.

These organs shamelessly repeat that the agent regime in Egypt was behind the events in Khartoum. Ibrahim Nafi, for instance, wrote in *AL-AHRAM* that agent Mubarak gave the green light for ending Numayri's regime five hours before it was finally destroyed.

Talking about non-intervention in Sudan's affairs and silly claims of a role in Sudanese events, Mubarak's regime proved that it has no respect for the feelings of the Sudanese people or for the new leadership that joined the revolution of the oppressed in Khartoum. Mubarak and the traitors want to say that this people are not mature and are related with those who signed the treacherous treaty of Camp David. Thus, they ignore the big sacrifices the Sudanese people gave and the suffering, mostly due to the conspiracy of Mubarak's regime and the American Government.

Mubarak's regime may need to know two points. To contain the revolution in Sudan is difficult and to confront it inside Egypt is impossible. As for attempts to attack Libya and spreading hostile American propaganda against her [words indistinct] known to us and to the Egyptian people are part of Camp David agreements, the agreements that turned the Egyptian regime into a puppet for imperialism.

Sudanese Revolutionary Committee Attacks Egypt
LD141522 Tripoli JANA in English 1412 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 22, April 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Sudanese Socialist Front, the Revolutionary Committees Movement, in a statement yesterday strongly attacked the attitude of Husni Mubarak's regime towards the popular revolution in Sudan that overthrew the dictator regime of Numayri.

The statement said: Motivated by the mentality of pharaohs, khadives and pashas, the Sadat-Mubarak regime has committed a terrible crime against the Sudanese and Egyptian people by its opportunistic support to the collapsing regime of Numayri and his may clique. It took advantage of the weakness of Numayri's regime and imposed itself as a patron and a defender of Sudan just as if the Sudanese people are not capable of defending themselves and their land.

The statement strongly praised the national and progressive forces in Egypt for supporting the popular revolution in Sudan, and for condemning the Egyptian regime's treason and hostile attitude against the Sudanese people in the form of allying with the fascist clique of agent Numayri.

The front stressed that the Sudanese people strongly reject the colonialist approach of the Egyptian bourgeoisie of the khadives and pashas that have dominated once again in Egypt as a result of the open door policy towards world colonialism and foreign capital. Such bougeois agent class, the statement went on to say, only dreams of ruling Sudan as an Egyptian province. This is a dangerous attitude because it looks to Sudan as land and forests only, as if the Sudanese people do not exist.

The Sudanese Socialist Front, the Revolutionary Committees Movement, pointed out that the Sudanese people strongly reject relations with the Egyptian regime, a regime that committed the unforgiven mistake of treason, the recognition of the Zionist entity.

MAURITANIA

Head of State Meets With Moroccan Foreign Minister

LD122311 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Colonel Maayouia Ould Sid 'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, this evening received Abdellatif Filali, Moroccan minister of foreign affairs, cooperation, and information who arrived in the capital at noon today at the head of an important delegation that includes Rafiq Haddawi, the secretary general of the Mauritanian-Moroccan agency for cooperation.

The meeting took place in the presence of Lieutenant-Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, Military Committee for National Salvation member and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and Dr Lawladi al-Wazzan, director of the office of the chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state. It was also attended by Rafiq Haddawi, the secretary general of the Mauritanian-Moroccan agency for cooperation.

The Moroccan minister for foreign affairs, cooperation and information made a statement after the meeting to our colleague:

[Begin recording] I had the great honor to meet with his excellency the head of state, and also with my colleague, the foreign affairs minister. I particularly would like on this occasion to convey the greetings of the Moroccan people to the fraternal Mauritanian people. This is my first visit to Mauritania as Moroccan foreign minister. The talks naturally centered first of all on bilateral relations and also the conditions in the area, and views were exchanged in general on economic problems and African issues. [end recording]

Abdellatif Filali was welcomed at the airport by Lt Col Ahmed Ould Minnih, Military Committee for National Salvation member and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

Diplomatic Relations Resumed

AB140850 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] The Kingdom of Morocco and our country have resumed diplomatic relations. This is the outcome of the visit made to Nouakchott last Friday by Abdellatif Filali, the Moroccan minister of foreign affairs, cooperation, and information. The minister was received on his arrival at the (?State House) by Colonel Maaouyia Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, CMSN chairman and head of state, to whom he delivered a message from His Majesty Hassan II, king of Morocco. The audience took place in the presence of Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, who welcomed Mr Filali and later saw him off upon his departure.

MOROCCO

Diplomatic Relations Resumed With Mauritania

LD131226 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Morocco and Mauritania have agreed to resume diplomatic relations. The Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and Information has issued a statement saying that following the visit yesterday by the Moroccan minister of foreign affairs, cooperation, and information, Abdellatif Filali, to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, the two sides agreed to resume diplomatic relations between the two countries at ambassadorial level in order to bolster the ties of friendship and traditional friendship existing between the two fraternal peoples and countries.

Poland's Malinowski Holds Talks With Prime Minister

PM121341 Casablanca LE MATIN DU SAHARA in French 29 Mar 85 pp 1, 2

[MAP report: "Toward an Extension of Bilateral Cooperation"]

[Text] Rabat, 28 March — Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani had a meeting in Rabat late on Wednesday afternoon with Mr Roman Malinowski, president of the Presidium of the United Peasant Party and Polish deputy prime minister, on friendly relations between Morocco and Poland and on current international questions.

The following is the text of a communique issued at the end of Mr Karim Lamrani's meeting with Mr Malinowski who is now visiting Morocco: "Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani had a meeting late in the afternoon in his office with Roman Malinowski, chairman of the Presidium of the Polish United Peasant Party and deputy prime minister of the Polish Republic, who was accompanied by Josef Klasa, Polish ambassador to Morocco and by other close aides. During the talks the prime minister and his guest examined friendly relations between the two countries and ways and means of extending bilateral cooperation.

"Mohamed Karim Lamrani took this opportunity to pay tribute to Moroccan-Polish relations in the different spheres while expressing satisfaction at the level of cooperation between the two countries. Problems of common interest and current international questins were also reviewed. Commerce, Industry, and Tourism Minister Azzedine Guessous and Rachid Haddaoui, adviser to the prime minister, attended those talks."

UAE President Concludes Visit, Departs 14 Apr

JN141542 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1345 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Rabat, 14 Apr (WAKH) — His Highness UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan left Rabat for home today after a visit to Morocco. During the visit, His Highness Shaykh Zayid held talks with the Moroccan monarch, King Hassan II, within the framework of the continuous contacts and consultations on Arab issues, the situation in the Gulf region, the Arab Maghreb, and the Middle East, as well as international issues, bilateral relations, and bolstering joint cooperation in all areas.

SUDAN

USSR Expresses 'Satisfaction' With Change

EA141843 Khartoum SUNA in English 1715 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, Apr 14 (SUNA) — The chairman of the Transitional Military Council, commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, 'Abd al-Rahman M.H. Siwar al-Dhahab, today received a message from the Soviet leadership expressing its satisfaction over the radical change which took place in Sudan.

In the message, conveyed by the Soviet ambassador to Khartoum, the Soviet leadership expressed desire of pushing foreward the relations between the two countries in all fields. In his turn Siwar al-Dhahab asked the Soviet ambassador to convey his deep appreciation to the Soviet leadership for its sincere initiative and for the Soviet Aid rendered to Sudan.

Reportage on Siwar al-Dhahab Press Conference

Improved Ties With USSR

EA151741 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council and commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, has said that he has exchanged messages with the heads of state of the USSR, Ethiopia, and Libya to improve the relations which had deteriorated with them as a result of the previous regime's policies. He said this at the news conference his excellency held at the General Command attended by representatives of the world's press and news agencies.

Regarding the transitional government, his excellency said that the Political Committee is cooperating with the unions, parties, and rallies to study the proposals put forward in this regard and the formula under which the transitional government will be formed. Meanwhile, his excellency said defeating desertification and the famine problems are at the top of the revolution's concerns.

Regarding the situation in the southern regions, his excellency said that peace prevails and that the cease-fire is still being observed. He added that the Chevron Company will resume oil exploration activities after the removal of the causes that led to their cessation.

Further on Foreign Relations

JN160952 Khartoum SUNA in English 0915 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, Rajab 25, April 16 (SUNA) — Chairman of the Transitional Military Council Gen Siwar al-Dhahab yesterday expressed hope for improved relations with the Soviet Union, Libya and Ethiopia. Gen Siwar al-Dhahab speaking in a press conference attended by the foreign press, disclosed that he had sent messages to the leaders of Libya, Ethiopa and Soviet Union about improving relations and had received some response. I have sent messages to the leaders of Soviet Union, Ethiopia and Libya expressing our wish that we would like to see that our relations are far much better than it used to be during the past regime and at that step we are receiving some response, Siwar al-Dhahab said. He added that there would be further contacts with Libya, Ethiopia, as well as other friendly countries and the results of these contacts would be seen within the next few days.

Turning to domestic affairs, Gen. Siwar al-Dhahab told reporters he wanted to meet the rebels' leader in the South, John Garang and that a proposal to include his party in the transitional cabinet had been considered. "It is in our plans to meet with him and talk to him to see what his plans are as far as the South is concerned," Siwar al-Dhahab said.

On Shari'a laws, he said it would remain in principle but added that certain revision had to be done.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said the Alliance of National Forces for the Salvation of the Nation was still working on the formation of the transitional cabinet.

On the problem of shortage of grain and food resulting from drought he said it is one of his most important priority pointing to the Decree No 9, which the General Command of the People's Armed Forces had called upon the world to help Sudan overcome the problem. "I myself chaired the high commission for the relief," Gen Siwar al-Dhahab stated.

Answering a question on whether the cease-fire is effectively observed, Siwar al-Dhahab said: Yes indeed. as far as reports that are coming from the south, things are quite stable and everybody is observing the cease-fire, he said.

On the willingness of foreign companies to resume work in Sudan, Siwar al-Dhahab said, Chevron Company has the desire to resume its operations and that the security problem would be solved in the near future.

He denied that Eritreans are using Sudanese territory in their fight against Ethiopia, adding that they were merely refugees living in Sudan according to U.S. regulations.

MENA Report

NC151800 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Apr (MENA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council and commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces, has declared that consultations are underway with representatives of the Sudanese National Alliance for the formation of a civilian government. These consultations are being held to define the length and type of transitional government that will be established, one that is to have executive functions, before power is to be handed over to the masses.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab was speaking at a news conference today attended by Arab journalists and correspondents. He affirmed that the consultations were proceeding well. Their end result should create an accord among the various parties and trade unions so that a formula may be found to ensure the formation of a transitional government that will assume its duties during the current phase. Gen Siwar al-Dhahab declared that something will be achieved within the next few hours, and perhaps may already have been decided.

Answering a question on whether it is necessary for all political parties to sign a charter during the transitional period, Siwar al-Dhahab said that this is never necessary. This is a transitional phase. There must be a charter to stipulate what should be accomplished by the end of this phase, for power must then be handed to the masses. Hence there are specific goals which must be implemented and which cannot be implemented without the existence of an agreed charter.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab affirmed that the question of excluding certain political parties which had cooperated with the former regime is ruled out. He said: I expect all politicians, be they from parties, trade unions, or other organizations, to participate in this government. Our southern brothers will have posts in it because it is a national government for all Sudan.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab affirmed: The situation in the south now is completely stable. We will discuss the situation there and we are eager to ensure that this discussion be held at the national level, namely, that all sectors of the people and their representatives will participate in solving this issue. It is not an individual's or a group's issue, but an issue for Sudan in general and all views must be explored. Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said that arrangements for a dialogue with the south began immediately, but that the dialogue itself has not yet started.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said that several envoys, members of the Transitional Military Council, will visit the Arab states during the next few days. They will carry messages to the kings and presidents outlining our policy, affirming our full commitment to charters, and thanking them for all the assistance which they have given in various fields.

Answering a question about how the idea of cohesion between the Army and the people's revolution came about, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said: The idea came about 2 or 3 days before the revolution broke out, following the large demonstration called by the National Alliance forces. It was then evident that the Sudanese man in the street was responding fully to the revolution as hundreds of thousands of people took part in this demonstration. He added: It was clear that there was a radical change by the people regarding the former government. Hence we had to review our situation in the Armed Forces General Command. At that moment we started to act and the decisive decision was made on time at dawn on 6 April.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab denied that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak got in touch with him directly before 6 April. He affirmed: This never happened.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said that a large number of supporters of the former regime are now being interrogated, adding: I believe that none of them has been released.

Answering a question on whether he will allow the formation of new parties, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said We are in the process of forming a transitional government, and it is the duty of such a government to look into these matters.

Regarding the sending of an envoy to Saudi Arabia during the first days of the revolution, the Sudanese leader said that Saudi Arabia had asked us to do so in order to see if we were in need of urgent materials. Saudi Arabia had responded to our requests for aid since we suffered a shortage in basic commodities. We must thank His Majesty King Fahd for his generous response to our request.

Asked to explain the commitments of the Army and the people, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said that the revolution was a white one during which not a drop of blood was wasted. The Army, he added, is the defender of the people. Therefore, the people should honor the Army's wishes. When the Army discovered that the people had collectively decided to end the previous situation, its sole option was to side with the people.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said that the security situation was brought under control during the first minutes of the revolution. We encountered no difficulties concerning the internal security situation, because everyone sided with the revolution from the very beginning. We had to guarantee the security of our air space. But we later cancelled this procedure when we were sure that no foreign intervention was expected.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said: We raised the slogan of justice. In other words, whoever has a case should submit it, and if he is telling the truth, then he will be returned to his position.

Asked if he had requested help from Western countries only, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said: We have told the entire world that our relations with everyone are ones of friendship so long as (?we) abide by the international charters. Therefore, we welcome any envoys and we thank them in advance.

Responding to a question on whether John Garang, the rebel leader in south Sudan, has withdrawn his warning to the military to transfer power to civilians, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said: I have not heard of this withdrawal. However, we insist on conducting an objective peaceful dialogue with the southerners despite Garang's statement.

Responding to a question on whether politicians from the former regime will stand trial, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said: We advocate judiciary independence and the exercise of freedoms. Whoever is convicted of exploiting his powers or causing corruption will be brought to trial. The people are free to choose whatever they want. He pointed out that a search for a remedy to the deterio rating economic situation in Sudan is receiving our utmost attention. We are now in the process of formulating policies to rectify the economic situation in three stages: an urgent short-term policy to rectify what can be done for the economic situation; a medium-term policy; and a long-term policy.

At the end of his news conference, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab expressed his thanks to the United States for its assistance to Sudan. We ask the United States to give more assistance, he concluded.

Chairman Telephones Garang To Arrange Meeting

EA152012 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Siwar al-Dhahab, Transitional Military Council Chairman and commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, has stressed in a news conference with representatives of the Sudanese news media held at the General Command that former President Numayri's presence in Egypt does not reflect upon the special relations between Sudan and Egypt. He pointed out that the brothers in Egypt will not allow the former president to practice any activity, even in the form of press statements.

Regarding the southern problem and the possibility of its solution during the transitional period, his excellency said he had called for the convocation of a seminar in which all the concerned parties would take part to define the problem. He added that we are seeking to learn the opinions of the southerners on all sides and explained that he had already begun a dialogue with the southern brothers in Khartoum. He said he has made telephone contact with John Garang to arrange a meeting to discuss this problem with him.

Siwar al-Dhahab Praises Mubarak for Hosting Numayri

NC141957 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1910 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Apr (MENA) — Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces and chairman of the Transitional Military Council, has praised Egypt's position toward the 15 Rajab [6 April] revolution and the popular uprising in Sudan. In a statement which he made today to soldiers and officers of the Armed Forces in (Wadi Sayyidina) and to the infantry division in Omdurman, Siwar al-Dhahab said that from the first moments of the revolution President Mubarak has kept in constant touch with us through messages and telephone calls in order to be reassured about developments. He affirmed that Mubarak has urged friendly and fraternal countries to offer aid to Sudan during this current stage through which we are passing, in support of the Sudanese people's demands.

Siwar al-Dhahab said that keeping the former president in Egypt was a helpful factor in ensuring the revolution and spared problems that might have developed. This was an honorable stand taken by President Mubarak and fraternal Egypt, in response to the popular will.

Siwar al-Dhahab praised Saudi Arabia's stand. Saudi Arabia has expressed its respect for the people's will and said that Sudanese events are a domestic affair. King Fahd contacted Siwar al-Dhahab and asked that an envoy be sent to discuss Sudan's requirements at this current stage. In response to this request, Lieutenant General Yusuf Husni al-Haj went to Riyadh.

Expresses 'Concern' Over Relations

LD151908 Khartoum SUNA in English 1732 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, Rajab 24, April 15 (SUNA) — Chairman of the Transitional Military Council Gen 'Abd al-Rahman M. Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab today voiced his concern on the eternal ties that link Egypt and Sudan and said the integration process comes to [words indistinct] their ties.

In a press statement to representatives of two Egyptian Arabic magazines Gen Siwar al-Dhahab newly reiterated the Transitional Military Council commitment to hand over power to the people.

In his statement to *AL-MUSAWWAR* and *OCTOBER* magazines of ruling Egyptian party the chairman said that the economic crisis was high on the priorities of the discussions of the council. At the same time he voiced that the assistance of the friendly countries is essential for Sudan to surpass this delicate phase.

Siwar al-Dhahab Receives Messages, Envoys

Pakistan, U.S., British Envoys

EA131953 Khartoum SUNA in French 1632 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 13 Apr (SUNA) — General Siwar al-Dhahab received a message from the Pakistan president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, on the development of bilateral relations. The message was delivered by the ambassador of Pakistan.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab received American and British ambassadors on Thursday [11 April], with whom he discussed relations between Sudan and the respective countries. He also received the Belgian, Greek, Spanish and Polish charges d'affaires and briefed them on the recent events in Sudan.

Romanian Delivers Ceausescu Message

EA141752 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council and commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, received at his office in the General Command this afternoon, his excellency the ambassador of Socialist Romania in Khartoum, who delivered to him a message from His Excellency President Nicolae Ceausescu, in which the latter expressed his understanding of the circumstances which led the People's Armed Forces to take over power in order to stop the bloodshed and maintain the unity and independence of the country. He also expressed his satisfaction at the excellent relations linking Sudan and Romania and his strong desire to see these relations developing in all fields and the promotion of cooperation between the two countries international forums in order to apply the principles of peace, national independence, and cooperation among nations.

For his part, General Siwar al-Dhahab praised the good relations between Sudan and Romania. He asked the ambassador to convey to His Excellency President Ceausescu his gratitude and appreciation for the good sentiments he expressed in his letter. He also asked him to convey his greetings and the greetings of the Transitional Military Council on behalf of the Sudanese people.

Transitional Military Council Takes Oath on Duties

GF122002 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Apr (SUNA) — The chairman and members of the Transitional Military Council have at 1030 [words indistinct] the following oath at the General Command of the People's Armed Forces:

In the name of God, the merciful and the compassionate. I swear by God, the almighty, to sincerely preserve the regime that was established by the 15 Rajab 1405 Hegira revolution until the attainment of the proclaimed goals, to be committed to transfer authority to the people at the end of the transitional period to be agreed upon, to respect the law, to fulfill my duties as a member of the Transitional Military Council with objectivity and sincerity, preserve the independence of the homeland, its integrity, and safety, and to work in serving the people and ensuring their progress. God is my witness.

Chairman Affirms Returning Power to Civilians

LD151901 Khartoum SUNA in English 1725 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, Rajab 24, April 15 (SUNA) — Chairman of the Transitional Military Council Gen 'Abd al-Rahman M. Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab today [words indistinct] reaffirmed that the People's Armed Forces took over power in conformity with the masses will and vowed that the Army will convey the power to the civilians within a one year transitional period. Siwar al-Dhahab in statement to the correspondent of the French television today appealed to the French Government to continue its assistance to Sudan.

In his statement he also asked the French Government to urge the French organizations and friendly countries to render more aid to Sudan. The French-Sudanese relations will continue growing forwards to serve the interests of the two peoples, he told the correspondent.

Receives Businessmen

JN151047 Khartoum SUNA in English 1014 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Apr (SUNA) — Chairman of the Transitional Military Council 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab received some Sudanese businessmen at his office yesterday. Siwar al-Dhahab told the businessmen the highly appreciated their endeavour to protect the country from economic collapse. The businessmen donated a sum of 1,030,000 pounds as a first contribution to help boost the national economy.

Praises Armed Forces, Others

JN151507 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1436 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Apr (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council and commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, has sent a cable to the Commander of the Hunting Guards (Kharas al-Sayyid] in which he praised the great national role that all elements in the Hunting Guards' forces have played during the popular uprising. Siwar al-Dhahab also called on the hunting guards to continue their efforts, with their comrades in the Armed Forces and the other regular forces, to strengthen the national economy and to stop the deterioration that took place in the past years. Siwar al-Dhahab recently sent similar cables to the Regular Forces, and two cables to the police and to the prison authorities, in which he praised these forces' national role.

Meets With Jabal al-Awlia' Forces

JN131515 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1427 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 13 Apr (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Siwar al-Dhahab, commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces and chairman of the Transitional Military Council, has stressed that our relations with fraternal Egypt will continue to develop. He also praised the brave stand adopted by Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the Saudi people toward the recent developments in Sudan, and their good intentions to support Sudan in the future. Siwar al-Dhahab has thanked all fraternal and friendly states that stood at Sudan's side during the first moments of the birth of the 6 April revolution.

Siwar al-Dhahab added that all the states' ambassadors he met in Khartoum have stressed that the Sudanese people are a unique people who enjoy cultural insight and a developed political awareness. He said: The objective of assuming power was to prevent bloodshed and safeguard national unity.

General Siwar al-Dhahab stressed that the Armed Forces' stand with the people is another page added to their bright history that has been registered in the record of heroism. This came during a meeting with the forces of the Jabal al-Awlia' military region this morning. He said that the Armed Forces' assumption of power was an inevitable conclusion of the people's desire to create a radical change in the country.

Siwar al-Dhahab said: Our major task is to defend the homeland and its security and sovereignty. He added: We give the first priority to Sudan's interests, express loyalty to Sudan, and do our utmost to embody and safeguard national unity. Siwar al-Dhahab pointed out that the future will bring the tranference of authority to the people's representatives.

Concluding his meeting with officers, NCO's, and soldiers of the Jabal al-Awlia' forces, Siwar al-Dhahab stressed the importance of adherence to the Armed Forces' unity in order to defend the homeland and its security.

Vice President on Information Policy, Egypt

JN151113 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Apr (SUNA) — General Taj al-Din 'Abdallah Fadl, vice chairman of the Transitional Military Council and deputy commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, has declared that the transitional period will be marked by a national information policy that does not side with any faction and that gives everyone the complete freedom to express his opinion within the framework of the Sudanese national unity.

Gen Fadl made this announcement during his meeting yesterday with the officers, NCO's, and men in the Al-Damazin, Al-Qadarif, and Madani military regions. He also announced during his meeting with the 20th Brigade in Madani that all women prisoners have been released from the prisons of the Central Region.

Speaking on foreign policy, Gen Fadl affirmed that the relationship with Egypt will continue to be a distinguished one, because it is a relationship between the two peoples that does not change with the change of the political regimes in the two countries. He also praised Saudi Arabia's splendid fraternal stand in ensuring the country's requirements of petroleum products for 3 months. These petroleum products, he said, are already being shipped from Yanbu' to Port Sudan.

Former Officials To Be Tried; Army Urged To Unite

JN151200 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1022 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Apr (SUNA) — General Taj al-Din 'Abdallah Fadl, vice chairman of the Transitional Military Council and deputy commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, last night addressed the officers and men of the 20th Infantry Brigade in Wad Madani, Central Region. He said that no citizen will be charged for having dealt with the defunct regime, because all the people had participated in the defunct regime and all the People's Armed Forces and their commanders had worked with that regime over the past 16 years. This subject, he said, had already been discussed in the Trade Union Alliance's meetings with the Transitional Military Council in Khartoum.

Gen Fadl affirmed that the investigations that will be carried out of the leading figures of the May regime will reveal those who pursued a corrupt line in political and economic affairs. Those proved guilty will be made to account for their actions, he said. Gen Fadl referred to the need to benefit from past mistakes and to apply democracy in the country.

Gen Fadl explained that the trial of those charged with corruption will be the responsibility of all the people, because the Armed Forces will not undertake their trial. He said that this principle will be applied to all those to be investigated, including members of the state security organ. Those found guilty will be convicted and the innocent will be set free, he added.

Gen Fadl emphasized the need for the Armed Forces to adhere to their unity and to close their ranks in the interest of the homeland and the citizens.

KUNA Notes Names of Candidates for Cabinet Posts

LD151752 Kuwait KUNA in English 1629 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Spelling of names as received]

[Text] London, April 15 (KUNA) — A well-known Sudanese businessman Monday denied widespread reports he was being offered a major cabinet portfolio, amid signs of deepening divisions between the country's politicians over the formation of a transitional government.

Sa'd Abulila told KUNA that he had not been officially contacted about the issue, and that while he had heard reports that he was being nominated for a cabinet post this was "by no means confirmed".

He added that no formal talks on the subject had been made with the National Salvation Front, the umbrella group of political parties and trade unions trying to put together an administration in the wake of the April 6 military coup which overthrew the regime of former President Ja'far Numayri.

Press reports had said that Abulila, who is currently visiting London, was being widely tapped for the Commerce portfolio in the transitional administration. But Sudanese political sources said that Abulila, chairman of the Sudanese Chamber of Commerce, had turned down the post.

But representatives of Sudanese political parties in London said there continued to be deep-seated differences between unions and political parties over the composition of the new cabinet. The doctors and lawyers syndicates continued to be at loggerheads over who should take over the premiership, they said. Press reports had said that Doctors' Union leader Dr Jazuli and Lawyers' Syndicate president Nasri al-Mirghani were both slated for the post. The sources said that the cabinet would probably be announced later on Monday evening, or on Tuesday morning after differences had been overcome.

The government is expected to contain five party representatives, five trade unionists, two southern Sudanese and two members of the Army — but differences were thought to have erupted over the inclusion of partisan portfolios in a government whose declared aim is to act as a transitional authority, paving the way for elections and democratic rule. The Communist Party said yesterday it did not mind if it was not represented in the cabinet, so long as the new government gave assurances that it would make way for free elections.

Meanwhile, air travel resumed between London, home of many Sudanese opposition leaders during Numayri's 16 years in power, and Khartoum. Travellers arriving from the Sudanese capital last night said that there was a feeling of great optimism, and political activity was reaching a level unknown since Numaryi seized power in 1969.

National Forces Select Cabinet Candidates

JN160954 Khartoum SUNA in English 0925 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, Rajab 25, April 16 (SUNA) — The Allied National Forces for the National Salvation have completed work on a list of its candidates for the transitional cabinet, Transitional Military Council member 'Uthman 'Abdallah has stated. He said consultations were conducted with the southerners in the national capital and the regions for selecting their ministers at the cabinet.

On the criteria for selecting candidates, 'Abdallah said they include conditions such as that a candidate should not have party affiliation or served under the defunct regime.

Party Official Notes Strength of 'Popular Uprising'

GF151017 Doha QNA in Arabic 0835 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Dubayy, 15 Apr (QNA) — A Sudanese party official has warned against throwing doubts on the national direction of the new authority in Sudan. He said that some Arab press and political parties are making a big mistake by deliberately throwing doubts on this authority, which deposed former Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri on 6 April.

The Sudanese official, Al-Bakr Ahmad 'Abdallah, representative of the Democratic Party, said that these parties make a mistake when they imagine that what has happened in Sudan was merely a military coup d'etat engineered by foreign forces. He said that the changes currently being witnessed by Sudan are due to a popular uprising in which all the national Sudanese forces, including individuals, parties, trade unions, and Armed Forces, participated.

In a statement to *AL-BAYAN* newspaper published in Dubayy today, he said that an action with such huge popular support cannot be subjected to a relapse, especially since the Sudanese people who overthrew the Numayri regime are also capable of toppling any regime that opposes the Sudanese legitimacy. He said that the Transitional Military Council has agreed to the 13 Articles of the charter which was presented by the national forces and also agreed to the preparation of a draft permanent constitution whose articles will be based on the 1956 Constitution and the 1964 amendments.

The newspaper said that elements of the national Sudanese forces existing in Britain are currently making intensive contacts to organize a big political rally on 27 April to celebrate the return of democracy to Sudan and to affirm the support of the national movement for the Sudanese people in their national demands which affirm that there is no alternative for real democratic life in Sudan.

SUNA on Arab Bar Association's Role in Coup

JN161015 Khartoum SUNA in English 0930 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Apr (SUNA) — The Arab Bar Association Secretary General Faruq Abu 'Isa has explained that the Arab Bar Association was one of the essential tools in boosting the Sudanese people's struggle against the despotic regime of ousted thug "Numayri".

Last April had witnessed the holding of special session help by the Arab Bar Association in Khartoum which was a political demonstration for backing the Sudanese peoples issues and his struggle for democracy, Abu 'Isa added. Abu 'Isa referred to the association's activity in releasing the political detainees in Sudan, pointing out that the association in collaboration with the Sudanese Bar Association had specified and studied the conditions of the detainees and took these facts to the former officials including the thug Numayri displaying to them the real conditions under which the political detainees are living. Under the bar's persistence and pressure the defunct regime admitted the existence of some political detainees confining them to Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and Mahmud Muhammad Taha and their followers, Abu 'Isa explained.

Abu 'Isa touched on the Arab Bar Association's stand towards the imposition of martial laws which followed by the establishment of the emergency courts last April explaining that the association had launched an international campaign against the enaction and application of such laws and that for enlightening the world public opinion on the practises of the defunct May regime and its legislative violations.

SANU Leaders Meet; Party To Be Revived

JN131102 Khartoum SUNA in English 1017 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, Apr 13 (SUNA) — Some leaders of the southern SANU [Sudanese African National Union] Party decided to revive their organization in a meeting here yesterday, a party's source told SUNA. The source said the meeting discussed the formation of the party and prepared a memorandum explaining its objectives and contributions to the democratic life in the country. He said the memo would be handed to the Transitional Military Council. The source said the party's objectives did not contradict those of the southern Sudan political association. However, he added the association should include trade unions, organizations and political parties, and not individuals.

KUNA Reports on Coup Results, Transfer of Power

LD122058 Kuwait KUNA in English 1811 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait, April 12 (KUNA) — Reports from Khartoum, the Sudanese capital indicate that there are hopes that current negotiations between the military command in Sudan and the National Alliance will lead to an agreement that would provide for transferring the authority from the military to the people.

The optimism is based on information from sources close to the negotiations which said "the talks are being held in a democratic atmosphere that the country had not witnessed during the reign of sacked President Ja'far Numayri," who was toppled in a bloodless coup last Saturday.

The talks between the military command and the delegation of the National Alliance, which groups all trade unions, parties and political forces are aimed at reaching an agreement on "the ideal way for transferring the complete authority to the people".

The role played by the Sudanese trade unions in leading the developments toward the decision by General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab to sack Numayri and to announce that that authority will be handed over to the people after a transitional period the duration of which was not yet been decided. Speculations put it at six months to one year.

The National Alliance groups all trade unions, university teachers, engineers, lawyers, and other unions, as well as all Sudanese parties and political forces, except the Muslim Brotherhood wing led by Hasan al-Turabi which made an alliance with Numayri, but lately was jailed in a crackdown against the Muslim Brotherhood last month.

The political parties which joined the National Alliance are the Moslem Brotherhood wing led by Al-Sadiq 'Abdallah 'Abd al-Majid which rejected to deal with Numayri; the Communist Party, led by Muhammad Ibrahim Nujud; the Democratic Unionist Party; the Ummah Party led by Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi; the Arab Ba'th Party (the Sudanese branch); and the Socialist Islamic Party, led by Nasir al-Sayyid.

It is noted that the Sudanese popular forces which had a decisive role in recent developments and the trade unions and political parties have not allowed themselves to get over-optimistic fearing that the military coup was a mere operation for a face-change and that the pledges to hand over authority to the people are but promises for domestic consumption and for a limited period in which the military command would be able to deflate the popular anger and contain that anger in prelude to setting up a new military dictatorship.

The experience which many Third World countries have lived justify that fear, but the only guarantee that this will not recur in Sudan is that the Sudanese popular forces, which had completely grasped the lessons of the coup led by Numayri in May 1969, will not allow their gains and victories be aborted by a group of ambitious officers. Another guarantee is that the speedy movement of the political parties and national forces to iron out their differences and to agree on a unified stance in their current negotiations.

As for the position of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) toward the negotiations, there are contradictory information to that effect, with report saying that the leader of the movement John Garang has refused to join the talks and has given a one-week ultimatum to the military leaders after which they have to hand over power to civilians, while other reports said the SPLM would send a representative to join the National Alliance delegation.

Generally speaking, the political situation and the developments in the current negotiations are still unclear and no one can be pessimistic or optimistic concerning the hoped-for democratic civilian government in Khartoum after 16 years of military dictatorship and repression against the people.

A week after the coup, indications started to surface in Sudan that there is a popular willingness to have a role in confronting some of the problems which Sudan in suffering from. Reports from Khartoum said traders in the Sudanese capital have began offering essential consumer goods, particularly grains, at reasonable prices, after the acute shortage which characterized the markets during the final days of Numayri's rule. According to those reports the masses in Sudan have showed simultaneous response and understanding and began helping security and police men in their efforts to maintain stability which is returning to the Sudanese capital.

Awaiting for a clearer picture on the situation in Sudan concerning the current negotiations, one can hope that Sudan is now making its first steps toward a real democratic rule that guarantees the basic liberties for the Sudanese people and that Sudan will begin working for a settlements to its problems in order to be able to assume its African, Arab and international role.

Ummah Party Spokesman Interviewed on Developments

LD131918 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1644 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Excerpts] London, 13 Apr (KUNA) — A spokesman for the Sudanese Ummah Party denied the news which says that the Sudanese parties will not take part in the new transitional civilian government. He stressed the necessity of these organizations participating in the coming stage because they represent all the trends in the Sudanese scene.

In a telephone conversation with KUNA in London, the spokesman added that the new formation of the council of ministers should represent the entire Sudanese nation in a correct manner. He revealed that Mr al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, leader of Ummah Party, will not join this transitional government himself but through representatives of the party whom he did not reveal. The spokesman hastened to add that Mr al-Sadiq will contribute his ideas, efforts, and abilities to push this transitional government. He added that consultations are also under way to find the person for the post of premiership as this matter has not been settled yet.

The final consultations concerning the formation of the government, the spokesman added, are expected to finish within the coming 48 hours at most, and that the negotiations between the military council and the representatives of the national grouping and the unions are going on smoothly and in good spirit.

The spokesman feels that the final formula for the government has not been completed yet, however there is an insistence, according to him, on all national forces participating during the transitional year suggested. He pointed out that the party as well as other sides of the national grouping and the unions are represented in the negotiations by (Mr 'Umar Nur al-Din) and (Mr Salah 'Abd al-Salam).

The spokesman revealed that Mr al-Sadiq al-Mahdi did in fact meet with General Siwar al-Dhahab and he is in continuous contact with the military council through delegates. He noted that Mr al-Mahdi had requested the military leader Siwar al-Dhahab during his meeting with him to go back to the 1956 amended Constitution and to put on trial all of the previous regime's officials. He added that yesterday Mr al-Mahdi spoke at the Friday prayers at (Qubbat al-Mahdi) Mosque in Omdurman where tens of thousands of praying people were present. He stressed in his sermon that the Army has aligned itself with the people and has repented its wrong-doings. He called for the settlement of the problem of the south and the eradication of the legacy of Numayri's regime, and stressed the importance of national unity, the need for a recovery program [inqadh] and the holding of free elections a year later.

The spokesman hinted that Mr al-Mahdi might decide after this transitional year to involve himself directly in political work. he added that there is at present a detailed study of the personalities that will take part in this government to make the formation suitable to the stage and its requirements.

The spokesman of the Ummah Party in his interview with KUNA stated that it has become clear that there is more response from the people to the military council following the initial period of caution and doubt of the first few days fearing that the new regime might be a continuation of Numayri's regime. However, it is clear now that Numayri's regime has gone and that the Army has aligned itself completely with the people. He added that despite the doubts raised by a few outside and inside about the operation of handing over power completely to the civilians after a year, there is a serious conviction and full sincerity in the course of the present military regime in that respect.

He stated that the situation in Khartoum today is very calm and although the temperature is around 40 centigrade the traffic in the Sudanese streets is continuous and there is more of it as time passes, in addition to party activities by all political organizations in an atmosphere of freedom. He pointed out that the parties are working now to reorganize themselves, their programs and their administrative structure.

Concerning the laws of Islamic Shari'a, the spokesman said that it is inevitable that these laws will be reviewed to make them truly Islamic in action and not only in words, and that Numayri's regime merely decreed sanctions, which is wrong. He stated that Islamic laws should serve Islam and protect the Islamic society in Sudan.

Concerning the problem of the south the spokesman reiterated the need for a drastic solution to this problem and the need for negotiations with John Garang, the leader of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement because the causes of the civil war no longer exist. He pointed out that the people of the south are demanding more independence and autonomy and it is necessary to stop the war and negotiate. Concerning the representation of the southerners in the forthcoming government he said that their participation is necessary and the question of their participation might be one of the issues which are delaying the announcement of the new government. Concerning the most important news circulating today in Khartoum he said that the military council is holding the reins of power and it is completely convinced of the need to liquidate the May regime, and there is a lot of popular support for it.

Reportage on Coup Reaction in Southern Regions

Juba Commander Explains Coup

EA152114 Juba Domestic Service in English 1315 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] The commander of Equatoria military area, Major General P.S.C. Peter Cirillo, this morning addressed the regional directors general and directors at the Regional Executive Council Main House in which he enlightened them on the recent military takeover in Khartoum and the current move to restore peace, stability and power to the Sudanese people themselves. The commander also conveyed to the government directors greetings from the commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab. He later clarified reasons that led to the Army to seize power from the defunct regime following the civil demonstrations against its leader and the price rise of essential commodities in Khartoum, and added that their demands were genuine.

He said various committees for Equatoria Region have already been formed from the military personnel to carry out normal investigative duties in each government institution so as to provide the authorities of the military command concerned with adequate information before taking over full charge of the institutions. Similar data will enable the new interim military government to plan and carry out normal duties in each government institution. He also urged the directors general and directors to give enough and correct publicity of the new measures and to avoid rumors and panic among people. He finally called on them to execute discipline drastically among their staff as soon as possible. Present in the meeting were the commanding officer of Torit Garrison, Brigadier (Satonino Archa), Colonel al-Sirr Muhammad al-Nur and the secretary general of the Regional Executive Council, Mr (Angelo Vogaa).

Equatoria Commander Meets With Judges

EA152115 Juba Domestic Service in English
0515 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] The commander of the Equatoria military area, Major General P.S.C. Peter Cirillo met the chairman of the court of appeal and members of judiciary in Equatoria Region on Saturday in the court premises. Maj Gen P.S.C. Peter Cirillo stated that his field visit is aiming at explaining the current situation following the recent changes. He said that the People's Armed Forces sided with masses in the recent uprising in order to achieve security and stability. He added that the security situation is calm.

He explained that the April revolution is a popular revolution. He stated that the People's Armed Forces are concerned with availing the daily essential services to the masses. He further pointed out that the judiciary has an important role to play in this [words indistinct]. He urged the judiciary to second legal advisers to Equatoria military area and regional secretariat.

The president of Equatoria Regional Court of Appeal, Mr 'Abd al-Rahman Abduh earlier welcomed the commander of Equatoria military area and conveyed the congratulations of the employees of the judiciary to the new leadership under the command of the Commander-in-Chief of the People's Armed Forces and the Chairman of the Transitional Military Government First Lt. Gen 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab. The commander of the Equatoria military area also answered questions from the judges.

Employees in Equatoria Contribute 1-Day's Pay

EA152118 Juba Domestic Service in English
0515 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] The directors general of Equatoria Region on Saturday met with the secretary general in Juba and resolved the following: that all government employees in Equatoria Region contribute a 1-day's salary to the fund for supporting the region in the month of April, 1985. They appealed to the citizens that this is a national obligation which all people take pride in contribution. The contribution shall be used for resolving some of the chronic financial problems that have been facing the region up to date.

Meanwhile, Mr Emil Reda of Equatoria in Juba has responded to the call for donation to support Equatoria Region by donating a sum of 2,000 Sudanese pounds yesterday.

Fuel Situation in Equatoria 'Good'

EA152122 Juba Domestic Service in English
0515 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] The director of the Directorate of Commerce and Supply, Industry and Mining in Equatoria Region, Mr Peter (Mori) on Saturday told our reporter that the fuel situation in Equatoria region is good. He said that there are quantities of fuel belonging to traders that arrived in Juba within these days. [as heard] Mr Mori further said that some additional quantities of fuel are expected to arrive within the next week.

About the reduction in prices of commodities, Mr Mori said that a meeting was convened between military authorities and the authorities of the directorate of Commerce and Supply, Industry and Mining and a report was written and submitted to relevant authorities to deal with it.

Reactivating Mass Media in Equatoria Discussed

EA152211 Juba Domestic Service in English
0515 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] The head of the morale and orientation unit, Equatoria military area, Major Bashir 'Ali Bashir discussed yesterday morning with the director of radio and TV, Mr Angel Wawureh; the deputy director of information, Mr Benjamin Warileh; and all heads of information organs, ways of reactivating functions of the organs of the mass media in Equatoria Region. The meeting resolved to set up an information committee composed of organs involved in mass media and recommendations were made to facilitate the work of those media.

SPLA Radio: Governors of Southern Regions Arrested

EA151615 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Arabic 1330 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Radio SPLA has received a report that the new Sudanese military authorities have arrested the governors of what were formerly called the three southern regions. They are Daniel Kuot Matthews, former governor of Upper Nile Administrative Region; Joseph James Tombura, former governor of Equatoria Administrative Region; and Dr Lawrence Wol Wol, former governor of Bahr al-Ghazal Administrative Region.

The reports added that the decision to arrest these former governors of the southern Sudanese administrative regions was the result of popular pressures from the south and a demand from the committee composed of a number of southern politicians which was formed following the fall of former President Ja'far Numayri. It is worth noting that those governors were appointed on the orders of the deposed President Numayri following the division of the south into three regions.

SPLA Radio: Garang Receives Messages of Support

EA131518 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Positive reactions to the recent speech of the leader of the SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement], in which he called on the ruling military gang in Khartoum to resign, has been commended, according to reports reaching Radio SPLA from various cities and towns of the country.

Most of the messages of support for the movement and its leadership have come from Khartoum, Wau, Juba, Malakal, Shendi and Al-Ubayyid. In Juba two former ministers of Tombura's dissolved government have sent in their support. Another message of support has been received from a well-known businessman in Atbarah, who late last year contributed three radio recorders for Radio SPLA. For security reasons their names will not be made public now.

SPLM Radio Attacks Siwar al-Dhahab Regime

EA152332 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 15 Apr 85

["Special Commentary" contributed by Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM] Ideology Committee]

[Text] Sudanese progressive forces, as elsewhere, have wholeheartedly expressed unqualified support for the statement issued by Comrade John Garang de Mabior, the commander in chief of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] regarding the reality behind Siwar al-Dhahab's military coup. The points made in this statement are in profound agreement with demands of the broad masses. The commander in chief of the SPLA calls upon the generals who snatched power from the people to immediately and unconditionally transfer it to them because these military men in the first place never participated in popular uprising against the neo-fascism of Numayri but actually carried out numerous atrocities and repressive measures against the people.

It is important also to note that our revolutionary leader, Comrade John Garang de Mabior, reveals one undoubted fact that stands out in the development of the current situation. This is intervention by international reactionaries acting in complicity with the local reactionary classes which frustrated the revolutionary process. This (?result) shows us that the exploiting classes of our country, acting hand in glove with imperialism, are always against popular rule and are powerful obstacles to Sudan's liberation. It is for this reason that Comrade John Garang de Mabior most insistently urges upon all the Sudanese broad masses, workers, soldiers, peasants, professionals and students that the main, immediate and most urgent task of the moment is the creation of steering committees throughout the country, as in doing that ensures our national liberation movement [words indistinct] with the people whose specific interests we defend and represent.

This puts us on the solemn duty [as heard] to fight resolutely the new regime seeking to impose itself by military means and in cooperation of the reactionary political-religious groupings. As pointed out by Comrade John Garang de Mabior, one of the main objects of the Siwar al-Dhahab's military takeover is to install a government that will be capable of restoring to various reactionaries power alliances within the country which had been broken by the previous regime.

As the regime of Numayri had outlined its usefulness to imperialism, Siwar al-Dhahab's new junta is also meant to realign Sudan within the imperialist strategy of domination. With this imperialism, especially U.S. imperialism, they hope to convert our country into a military war house for countering revolution in the region; to threaten the struggling Palestinian people; to drown the popular war waged by the SPLA-SPLM in blood and fire; and to (?counter) any prospects of democratic and revolutionary development on the African Continent.

Our admirable people's revolutionary response has now forced the regime of Siwar al-Dhahab to scale down its arrogance and to fall back on reformist formulae in order to deceive the people. It has set up a quasi-civilian council of ministers, promised greater autonomy for the south and to hand over power to the people allegedly within a period of 1 year.

However, these efforts are useless. The Sudanese revolution, guided by the SPLA-SPLM, will not come to a halt because of cosmetic changes, setbacks or maneuverings by imperialism and its local agents. They cannot impede the further course of our revolution. The ongoing popular war, as a factor which has contributed to the overthrow of dictator Numayri itself, is an encouraging example of what an oppressed people, tenacity and a revolutionary will would achieve.

The SPLA-SPLM is firmly convinced that the Sudanese revolution is not far away, that the full victory of the oppressed and exploited masses is assured despite the fact that imperialists and their local allies do not hesitate to use the most brutal means for this suppression of our popular movement. That is why when we come to this most important question for us, peace and the likelihood of it, violations by the reactionary forces with all the possible consequences for us, we must stand firm no matter under what label they disguise themselves. We must not forget for a single moment that Comrade John Garang de Mabior said we fight to bring about genuine and permanent peace so that the nation does not oscillate between war and peace as has happened in 30th August year of independence and misrule by reactionary political parties and the movement.

The position of the traditional parties and other opportunist political groupings is clear to us. The various attacks launched by Siwar al-Dhahab's regime on people has frighteningly revealed their political weaknesses. Their leadership has done nothing to oppose these attacks nor exposed plots and provocations by CIA-sponsored generals. It has supported their attacks either by remaining silent or by collaborating with them. In this struggle only two sides (?are here) with the oppressed and exploited people or with the regime, while realities daily reveal that Siwar al-Dhahab's regime of [words indistinct] is an can only be anti-people that it must inevitably attack people.

Those like the traditional political parties are spreading the myth that the regime can be reformed or democratized while our people continue to suffer daily from its harsh treatment. This explains the instability of the situation of our country. This explains how easy it is in the circumstances to confuse and divide the people by their oppressors.

Let the petit bourgeoisie rush from one orientation to another. They like doing this. They have seen that the regime of Siwar al-Dhahab is an excellent guarantee against the working class masses. In the quite recent past, and at present moment, this [words indistinct] and coalitions with the pro-imperialist generals are branding us as communist stooges, those who emphatically denounce the conspiracy of international and local reactions in aborting and stealing our people's revolution and opening their eyes to its real nature. But now the petit bourgeoisie are all prepared in a matter of few days to change their political beliefs and to go over and align with the military, murderers and torturers against popular movements. It used by nature [as heard] we Sudanese revolutionaries, democratic, patriotic and peace-loving forces do not negotiate principles and are therefore prepared by all means to persist in the struggle with the people until victory over the retrogressive forces is achieved.

Long live the thousand times heroic Sudanese people. Long live the thousand times heroic Sudanese people. Long live the SPLA-SPLM. Ever forward to victory. Revolution or death.

TUNISIA

President Dissolves Judges' Group After Strike

LD151252 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba received Ridha Ben 'Ali, the minister of justice, who gave the following statement: I presented a report to the president about the events which took place on 10 and 11 April in the judiciary sector. He expressed his regret for this, even though the judges' strike did not succeed, contrary to the expectations of the leading elements (?of the judges).

The Society of Young Judges has deviated from its planned purposes according to its basic law, as its duties include the development of the society and respect for its (?formation) laws. Carrying out this strike is a deviation from the purposes and violation of Item 8 of the Judges Basic Law, which specifies that the members of the judiciary are forbidden to carry out any premeditated collective action which could lead to a disturbance and obstruction of the work [words indistinct].

Every employee in the judiciary sector who refuses for any reason whatsoever, even for the absence and ambiguity of law, to judge the case between rivals, after they ask him to do so, and continues to refuse to do so after being warned and ordered by his superiors, will be punished by a fine. The striking young judges are governed by these two clauses. Therefore, the president allowed the Society of Young Judges to be dissolved and a group of young judges to be suspended from their judiciary work and to refer them to a disciplinary council.

WESTERN SAHARA

Information Ministry Reports Battle Successes

LD131251 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] According to a statement issued today by the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Ministry of Information and Culture, the Saharan People's Liberation Army has inflicted heavy losses in men and equipment on the Moroccan Royal Forces during a series of attacks which the Saharan Army waged against a number of positions of the Moroccan forces within the framework of the Greater Arab Maghreb offensive.

The statement added that the Saharan fighters for several hours on 7, 8 and 9 April shelled positions of the Moroccan forces at Aimat Talmus, Tubiyah, Njeis Sidirman, Freita, Al-Minhaza, Al-Dilu, Al-Uqdah in Al-Tariq and Al-Hufrah. the statement pointed out that in these attacks the Moroccan forces lost 15 dead and 25 wounded and important quantities of military equipment and ammunition.

ETHIOPIA

Cuban Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

EA131415 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1000 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Comrade Isidoro Malmierca, Cuban Communist Party Central Committee member and foreign minister, arrived in Addis Ababa this morning for a 4-day working visit to Ethiopia at the invitation of the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During his stay here Comrade Malmierca will hold extensive discussions with high-ranking Foreign Ministry officials on the longstanding friendship and solidarity between the two countries and international issues. He will also hold talks on the nonaligned countries movement, and the situation in Africa and the Middle East, and visit various development sites. He will also exchange views with Cuban comrades in Ethiopia.

On arrival at Bole International Airport, Comrade Malmierca was welcomed by Comrades Goshu Wolde, Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee member and foreign minister; Nadew Zekarias, WPE Central Committee member and Ethiopian ambassador to Cuba; and Francisco Cabrera Gonzalez, Cuban ambassador to revolutionary Ethiopia.

Rebels Claim Capture of Military Base

EA151617 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Summary] In a joint engagement on 11 April, fighters of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front and the Tigre People's Liberation Front captured an enemy base between Himora and Gonder [northwest Ethiopia on the border with Sudan]. During the 4 hours of fighting, 57 km south of Himora, a company from the tank division stationed at that base was destroyed.

Eritrean Fighters Force Battalions To Retreat

EA121535 (Clandestine) Voice of Tigre Revolution in Tigirinya to Ethiopia 0400 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Two battalions of Workers Party of Ethiopian forces, which were mobilized from (Pode) to harass innocent civilians in the areaand capture Tekombia were attacked by the heroic fighters of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front and forced them to retreat.

In the 4-hour clash on 10 April 1985 our heroic fighters killed 15 Dergue soldiers, wounded 55 others, and captured 5 soldiers, 13 kalashnikov assault rifles, and a pistol.

SOMALIA

Health Ministry Issues Latest Cholera Figures

EA131832 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] A statement by the Somali Ministry of Health released today on the killer disease, cholera, in the refugee camps in the northwest region and the Hargeysa town between 11-12 April says that on 11 April 1985 there were 36 new cases and 8 deaths in the town of Hargeysa, the (Gannet), (Dam), (Las Durre), and Tog Wajaale refugee camps. On 12 April 1985 there were 69 new cholera cases and 14 deaths reported in these same areas.

The Somali Ministry of Health statement adds that the killer disease, cholera, is devastating almost all the areas along the so-called common borders, particularly the areas near Bukhale region. The statement added that the Abyssinian colonizers have not delivered any medicine or any form of aid to the dying people. The statement further added that in the Dagahabur the killer disease is ravaging the town and the death toll is increasing daily while the Abyssinian colonizers look on.

Relief Aid Urged

EA121526 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Reliable reports from the refugees who have recently fled from the western Somali territory, colonized by the Abyssinian regime, say that the killer disease cholera continues to ravage the town of Dagahabur and the death toll continues to rise daily. The reports add that the disease has been detected in Harar and Dire Dawa and the Abyssinian government was concealing this from the world at large.

The refugees further confirmed that many of the new refugees who have fled to Somalia have done so to escape from the killer disease, since they know that they will not get medicine and food in the event of the disease spreading to their areas in the western Somali territories.

A statement by the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Ministry of Health last week revealed that the killer disease cholera continues to ravage the towns of Walwal, Warder, Dogob, Dudub, Galadi and all the areas along the so-called common border between Somalia and Abyssinia and the Abyssinian regime has done nothing to stop it. Therefore, the SDR Ministry of Health once again urges international relief organizations and the governments of the world at large to rush humanitrian relief aid to those people who are perishing in the areas colonized by Abyssinia.

BURUNDI

Tanzanian Home Affairs Minister Concludes Visit

EA122236 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Bujumbura: Home Affairs Minister Ndugu Salimin Amour has concluded a 4-day visit to Burundi where he had talks with President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza. Ndugu Amour, who was due to depart from Bujumbura for home today, told newsmen that his talks with President Bagaza included Tanzanian-Burundian relations and the economic situation in Africa. Ndugu Amour also held talks with the Burundi foreign minister. The two ministers agreed on the need to improve security along their common border and to continue to strengthen the two countries' relations.

Communique Issued

EA122341 Dakar PANA in French 1725 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Bujumbura 12 Apr (ABP-BUR/PANA) Minister Salimin Amour held discussions with his Burundian counterpart, Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Kazatsa on matters relating to good neighborly ties. They satisfactorily noted the excellent state of existing Tanzanian-Burundian relations.

According to a communique published at the end of their working sessions, the two ministers have recommended continuing dialogue aimed at preserving and further improving the level of relations, notably in maintaining close contacts between the border authorities and implementing common preventive steps to discourage elements that would be tempted to tamper with the prevailingclimate. Moreover, with regard to health matters, they recommended a permanent exchange of information on contagious diseases in order to fight them more effectively.

The communique pointed out with regard to trade, transport, cultural, and scientific cooperation, that the two ministers have advocated an increase in bilateral relations in those areas for greater well-being and greater mutual knowledge of their respective countries.

CAMEROON

President Meets With Chadian Foreign Minister

AB150936 Paris AFP in French 1248 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Yaounde, 14 Apr (AFP) — About 3,300 codos (armed commandos in southern Chad opposed to Habre) have rallied to the Chadian Government and "the process continues," Chad's minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, Gouara Lassou, affirmed on Saturday.

Mr Lassou, who met with Cameroonian President Paul Biya, also mentioned the recent visit by President Hissein Habre to southern Chad and noted that it fell within the framework of the search for solutions to the country's problems "through negotiation and dialogue between sons of Chad." This visit, he continued, actually allowed the Chadian president to "meet some leaders of the guerrilla groups." The Chadian envoy, however, wondered if these interlocuters were free to operate: "Are the various opposition leaders free or do they carry out orders?" he asked before reaffirming the conviction of his government that "the Chadian issue can only be solved through negotiations."

CHAD

Spokesman Praises Relations With Sudan

JN151429 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Ndjamena, 15 Apr (SUNA) — Soumaila Mahamat, Chadian information minister and official spokesman for the Chadian Government, expressed the hope that the fraternal ties, the good neighborliness, and the good cooperation with Sudan will continue as usual, referring to the strong relations between the Sudanese and Chadian peoples. In a statement to SUNA today, he said that the Sudanese people are completely free to choose their system of government, without any foreign interference in their domstic affairs. He added: We depend on firm principles in our relations with Sudan, the fraternal and neighboring country.

ZAIRE

Angolan Refugees Flee to Shaba Province

AB122337 Paris AFP in English 1833 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Kinshasa, April 12 (AFP) — Some 20,000 Angolans fleeing civil war in their country have taken refuge in Zaire's Shaba Province since the beginning of the year, the local office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (HCR) said today. The HCR said that a total of some 60,000 Angolans were living in the border province of Shaba and that their food situation was "worrisome" despite the recent arrival of more than 3,000 tonnes of food aid from the World Food Programme (WFP) and the European Economic Community (EEC). Most of the Angolans fled across the border to escape fighting between government troops and guerrillas of the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). The United States recently granted 2.25 million dollars in aid to provide the refugees with water, the U.S. Embassy here said.

Press Delegation Leaves for Visit to PRC

AB112137 Kinshsa AZAP in French 1818 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 11 Apr (AZAP) — The headquarters of the Zairian Press Union (UPZA) disclosed that a 5-man Zairian press delegation left Kinshasa on Wednesday for the PRC for an information visit at the invitation of that country's government. The delegation includes Citizens Nkambidio Matonta, an advisor at the Ministry of Information and Mopap [Mobilization, Propaganda, and Political Action]; Mutiri wa Bashara, president of the UPZA; Sombo Dibele, first vice president; Tshimanga Koya Kakona and Abilinda Angoka, who are both advisors at the UPZA. During their 2-week stay in the PRC, they will visit all the major cities of that country.

BURKINA FASO

Sankara Meets With SDAR's Mahfoud Ali Beiba

AB131149 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and president of Faso received Brother Mahfoud Ali Beiba, the SDAR prime minister in charge of information and culture [title as heard], and member of the Executive Committee of the Polisario Front, currently visiting here. Brother Mahfoud Ali Beiba, who brought a message from his president to Captain Thomas Sankara, was accompanied to the head of state's office by Comrade Basile Guissou, minister of external relations and cooperation. After a 1-hour meeting, the SDAR prime minister talked to the press about the purpose of the audience and also answered a number of questions.

[Begin recording] [Beiba in Arabic fading into French translation] It is an honor for us to visit Burkina Faso for the first time. In fact, Burkina Faso is a brotherly country with which we have had very good relations since the ties between the two states were established on a strong basis and have been marked by reciprocal visits of the two heads of state to each others' country.

Currently, I am the bearer of a message from Brother Abdelaziz, SDAR president, to his brother and friend, President Thomas Sankara. The message concerns bilateral relations between the two countries and the frequent consultations between the two countries on issues of common interests. We also took stock of all the new developments in the war situation in our country and noted that the president is well informed about the situation and carefully follows all developments. This particular attention the head of state attaches to the developments in the situation will help develop and improve relations between our two countries.

Meanwhile, we consider it our duty to continuously inform a country that supports us, that is by our side at any moment and on all fronts. This visit has also offered us the opportunity to get to know the Burkinabe people through their social, economic, and political achivements, and in their daily struggle to solve the problems of development confronting them. I take this opportunity to express once again our thanks and our sentiments of fraternity to the leadership and the people of the Burkinabe revolution. We would also like to convey the greetings and wishes of success from our people and its leadership to all the people of Burkina Faso.

[Unidentified reporter] King Hassan of Morocco paid a visit to El Aaiun, capital of the SDAR, early March. What does this action of the Moroccan monarch represent to you?

[Beiba] First of all, I must say that an individual's life is full of events that are similar to this visit. This visit has a clear and special significance in the memory of the people. The people have been able to distinguish between what is true and false in these visits. This is not the first visit to be paid by an invader to his colonies, and in particular to the town of El Aaiun. The king was obliged to do something after the admission of the SDAR into the OAU. The military and political maneuvers have been fruitless so he was forced to pay this visit to show that he still has a hold on the territory.

[Reporter] Could you brief us on the progress of the grand Maghreb operation launched by the Polisario freedom fighters?

[Beiba] This is a continuous offensive which has two main aspects. First of all, it is a supplementary war [lutte complementaire]. Second, it has two objectives. The first involves a war of attrition aimed at Moroccan positions, wherever they may be along the frontline and at all times, with short and fast operations. The second is that of the large-scale wars, major operations which aim at specific military objectives with the purpose of destroying or neutralizing them. [end recording]

GHANA

Memorandum on Assistance Signed With FRG

AB131215 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Ghana and the state of Baden-Wurtemberg in the FRG have signed a memorandum of understanding. Under it, the government of the state of Baden-Wurtemberg will finance the establishment of an agricultural machine maintenance, repair, and training center in Ghana. It will also provide additional agricultural equipment, spare parts, and tools to the repair workshop of Ejura in Ashanti. The state will support the mechanization and repair workshop at Somanya in the eastern region, and grant scholarships to 30 students for refresher courses in agricultural management and engineering. The memorandum stipulates that trade links between firms in Ghana and Baden-Wurtemberg should be strengthened.

The memorandum was signed by the secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway, and the leader of the Baden-Wurtemberg delegation, Gerhardt Weisel. Before the signing ceremony, Dr Botchway disclosed that the State of Baden-Wurtemberg has agreed to donate pothole filling machinery and furniture-making equipment to Ghana. He noted that the machinery will assist the government immensely in its road rehabilitation program.

Gerhardt Weisel, on his part, thanked the government and people of Ghana for the warm reception accorded the team during its stay. The delegation, which was on a 1-week visit to Ghana at the invitation of the Ghana Government, leaves for home today.

Delegation Leaves For Visit to U.S., GDR

AB151413 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] A four-man government delegation has flown to Washington for talks with officials of the World Bank. Speaking to newsmen at Kotoka Airport, the secretary for roads and highways, Mr E.O. Donkor, who is leading the delegation, said the talks are in connection with the IDA [International Development Association] credit for the fourth highway rehabilitation project in the country. Mr Donkor said three areas under a 3-year rehabilitation and maintenance program have been identified. They include technical assistance to the Ghana Highway Authority, the Department of Feeder Roads, and local contractors. Others are the rehabilitation of the Anyinam - Kumassi trunk road, and the rehabilitation and maintenance of 164 bridges scattered over the country.

Mr Domkor said two members of the delegation will later visit the GDR to sign a $22 million contract for the rehabilitation of roads in Kumasi. The loan is under a barter agreement between the two countries.

GUINEA

Conte Meets With FRG Economic, Other Delegations

AB120845 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1945 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Excerpts] The head of state, Colonel Lansana Conte, today received the West German economic mission currently visiting our country, Henri Rhetore, the French ambassador to Conakry; Peter Laurence O'Keefe, the British ambassador to Guinea; and Badei Mohammad Amin, charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Guinea.

The seven-member FRG economic mission led by Mr Hans Schussler, director of the African section of the FRG Ministry of Economic Affairs, includes the chairman of the Afrikaverein Company, a member of the group of seven of the European Employers' Association, representing more than 1,200 companies operating in Africa in the sectors of commerce, agriculture, banking, and transportation, and which strive for the promotion of economic relations between the African Continent and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Mr Schussler said that his visit to Guinea would enable the FRG Government and investors to be fully informed about the current preoccupations of the Guinean people and government. Mr Schussler emphasized: Your 3 April 1985 message is a brilliant analysis of the situation in your country, and also indicates the path that will surely lead your people to progress and happiness.

The head of the FRG economic mission also stressed that what they have seen in the country has given them the assurance that they can strive to promote relations of economic cooperation, especially in the sector of small and medium-scale enterprises.

The head of state, who referred to cooperation between Guinea and friendly countries, pointed out that our government attaches importance to the training of cadres, and to financial and material aid. For our people to benefit from investments in our country, we must master technology and the management of our institutions. For this reason, President Lansana Conte said, the training of our cadres must be correctly ensured. In this framework, the head of state said, the Military Committee for National Redress and the government have defined the policy that should promote the progress and well-being of citizens. Therefore each worker must be hardworking so that foreign aid may be truly beneficial to the country.

After the FRG economic mission, the French ambassador to Guinea, Henri Rhetore, was received by the head of state. The head of the French diplomatic mission in Conakry discussed relations of bilateral cooperation in various fields with the head of state and the possibility of strengthening and developing these relations.

Finally, Badei Mohammad Amin, the Iranian charge d'affaires in Conakry, who brought a message from the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran to President Lansana Conte, was received by the head of state. On that occasion, Badei Mohammad Amin spoke about the latest developments in the war between his country and Iraq, and reasserted his government's desire to continue maintaining the good relations of cooperation existing between Iran and Iraq. [as heard]

In his reply, President Lansana Conte spoke about the desirability of a quick end to the war. Our people and government, the head of state said, advocate the end of the war between tow brother countries, two Muslim peoples and two neighboring countries, destined geographically and historically to live together always. The authorities of both countries must seek to stop the hostilities in order to end the conflict, the loss of lives, and the destruction of important material assets. It is only under this condition that the world community, the Islamic Conference Organization, brotherly and friendly countries can make valid statements at the negotiating table about conditions for peaceful coexistence, about the possibility of strengthening the ties of friendship and brotherhood existing between all peoples in the region.

President Lansana Conte asked the Iranian charge d'affaires in Conakry to assure his country's authorities about the readiness of the Guinean Government to actively strive for an end to the war.

IVORY COAST

Ministry Issues Communique on Upcoming Elections

AB151340 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Communique issued on 14 April by the Ministry of Interior relating to the population census exercise and to the revision of voters' lists for the upcoming national elections]

[Text] The population census began in March 1984 and ended in January 1985. The revision of the voters' lists also ended on 31 March 1985. The voters' lists are at the disposal of all those who are concerned by the 1985 elections at the prefectures for the communes and at the subprefectures for other constituencies.

The compiling of the voters' lists began on 1 April 1985 and will end on 31 May 1985. It concerns those who have not registered, the physically disabled, and those who, for various reasons, want their names registered on another list. Finally, Ivorians living abroad who wish to vote in Ivory Coast can apply for the registration with the subprefect of any constituency of their choice.

The timetable for the revision of the voters lists for the 1985 elections is as follows:

1-30 April 1985: Exercise of registration or cancellation to be carried out by administrative commissions;

30 April to 5 May: administrative commissions prepare the revised lists;

6-10 May: complaints, applications for registration and cancellation;

11-15 May: session of the judicial commission;

16-20 May: announcement of the latest decisions of the judicial commission;

21 May 1985: publication of the decisions by the judicial commission;

22-25 May: summons before the tribunal;

25-26 May: decisions by the tribunal;

26-30 May: announcement of the decisions by the tribunal;

31 May 1985: final closing of the voters lists.;

The minister recalls that for technical reasons, no cancellations or registrations will be made in-between the various elections, that is presidential, legislative, and municipal elections. This implies that the electoral constituency chosen by the voters will be the same for the three elections. The minister calls on all the voters to carefully abide by the present recommendations so that the elections take place in an orderly and disciplined manner.

Zairian Foreign Minister on Bilateral Relations

AB151227 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French
15 Apr 85 pp 22, 23

[Interview by Michel Kouame with Mokolo wa Mpombo, Zairian state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation, in Abidjan; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Kouame] Political relations between our two countries have been described as excellent by both parties. Relations between our two heads of state are very good; however, our exchanges are too few as far as the economic and commerical fields are concerned. How are relations in these fields, especially after the meeting of the Ivorian-Zairian joint commission which has just ended?

[Mokolo] We have noted that the political philosophies of our two heads of state are the same. It therefore seemed paradoxical that our economic and trade relations are not as good. Our meeting has made it possible to remove all the obstacles and there is no doubt that our economic and trade relations will now be as good as the political relations existing between our two heads of state and our two peoples who are really brothers....

[Kouame] Drought now constitutes a very serious problem in Africa. It is true that Zaire and Ivory Coast are presently not affected by this calamity, but it would be unrealistic to ignore the causes of the drought and the famine that accompanies it. What do your country's authorities think about assistance to the drought affected countries? Should this assistance be confined to the effects of the drought or do you think that there are actions that could be taken as far as the causes are concerned?

[Mokolo] You have correctly said that Ivory Coast and Zaire are not yet suffering from this phenomenon. But the two countries are threatened. We must take measures to attack the causes of desert encroachment. We had certain problems 2 years ago. Some signs of drought were noticed in Zaire. I think the same thing occurred here and the coffee and cocoa harvests were not very good. As you can see, the problem of drought concerns all the African countries. It is a danger that threatens the whole continent and not only the Sahelian countries. It is no use confining ourselves to holding conferences and making appeals to the industrialized countries which give us tons and tons of wheat.... We must personally consider what we can do to combat the advance of the desert and the phenomena that cause it. It is only then that we can find the remedies.

[Kouame] Some serious political problems have unfortunately been added to these problems of development. To the inevitable division of Africa into moderate countries and progressive countries must be added actions of destabilization. President Mobutu discussed these problems with some French journalists some time ago at Goma. He did not hide the role played by Al-Qadhdhafi in some of the actions of destabilization. Should one therefore be afraid of the Libyan head of state?

[Mokolo] You have mentioned a problem on which Zaire's position is simple. My country has certain principles and these are: a policy of cooperation with all countries of the world without exception. The proof is that although we have privileged relations with the United States, we also have relations with China. We have relations not only with South Korea but also North Korea; therefore, we are not hindered by any ideology. We have a very great respect for the principles of noninterference in the internal affairs of other states, of nonaggression, and of nonutilization of certain current practices, including the destabilization of other countries...this is because Zaire knows the price of peace. We are very much attached to our sovereignty and independence. No country should use its surplus money to destabilize other countries (as Libya has been doing). We do not accept this for Zaire, or for Chad, or for any other country. We have normal relations with Libya; we have never undertaken anything against that country. But I do not think the same thing can be said about Libya. We hope that Libya will use the great means at its disposal for a cooperation with all countries instead of stirring up trouble. It is true that we have different ways of viewing things but this is not a reason for us to be opposed to one another. On the contrary, we must derive a benefit from our differences. Ivory Coast and Zaire have chosen the same path. Let people leave us alone. We have our development to attend to....

[Kouame] It is said that there are some former Katangan gendarmes in the Islamic Legion. This had been said by your country's authorities. What do they now really represent for Zaire's internal security?

[Mokolo] When one talks about the former Katangan gendarmes, one must know what one is talking about. We no longer even talk about them in Zaire. We know that there are some Zairians who are taking refuge in some neighboring countries and who perhaps wrongly believe that they could go to Zaire to change the country's system with the support not only of these neighboring countries but also of African and foreign financiers. Those who disagree still have the possibility to make their opinions known in Zaire; they can express themselves within the party's framework. We have organizations in which everyone can express his opinions and direct the course of the country's political development. They are wasting their time if they think that it is from outside the country that they can undertake their actions. Let them see what has been happening in other countries... It is not those who are outside who change a country

[Kouame] President Numayri of Sudan has just been overthrown in a coup d'etat. The Sudanese people came out into the streets following what the IMF called the verity of prices [verite des prix]. Your country also passed along the same path in order to imrpove its financial and economic situation, which is now said to be sound. And yet it seems to me that things have been done very well in Sudan.

[Mokolo] There is no secret. It is a problem of national awareness. The people must be associated with the effort of recovery. One cannot make the happiness of the people without their cooperation. One must never take drastic measures without first explaining to the people why they are necessary.

LIBERIA

LPP Concerned Over Detention of Members

AB150840 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The organizing committee of the proposed Liberian People's Party, LPP, has expressed serious concern over the continued detention without formal charges of several of its members and the delay in the trial of its co-chairman, Dusty Wolokolie. According to a release issued over the weekend by LPP, those being detained for what has been described as security reasons include Tom Camara, co-chairman of the LPP Committee on Public Affairs and Information, partisan James Fumian, and Luciette Massally. Others are Christian Hebert, Larry Tokpah, Ezekiel Padjibor, and Dempster Yallah. The LPP release, however, expressed optimism that the Dusty Wolokolie trial, now before the associate justice of the People's Supreme Court, Honorable Boiman Morris, will resume as soon as possible. It said the associate justice is making efforts to have the case heard soon, following the defense counsel's letter of 26 March requesting him to assign the case for argument. The LPP organizing committee also called on the government to ensure that those accused are legally charged and given fair and speedy trial. The committee said no reason has been given for the arrest of Mr Camara and it is not known upon's whose [word indistinct] he was arrested. It may be recalled that in February this year Tom Camara was arrested by security personnel in Monrovia while James Fumian, Christian Hebert, Larry Tokpah, Ezekiel Padjibor, Dempster Yallah, and Miss Luciette Massally were arrested in December last year. The LPP committee said despite the government's position that every Liberian must be treated justly before the law no matter what his political affiliation may be, the accused are being detained without formal charges. It said the accused have reportedly been transferred from the post stockade in Monrovia to the maximum prison in Belle Yeallah, Lofa County.

MALI

PRC Health Minister Arrives for Working Visit

AB151326 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The PRC minister of health, Cui Yueli, arrived in Bamako yesterday afternoon for a 1-week working visit to Mali. Cui Yueli, who will hold many talks with national officials, will visit several medical facilities in our country, including Gabriel Toure and (Tati) hospitals, the Machoux Institute, the pharmaceutical products factory, and IOTA [Tropical Ophthalmoligical Institute of Africa]. The Malian and PRC ministers of health will visit Markala next Thursday. Cui Yueli will hold a working session with the Chinese medical team. The visit by the PRC minister of health will help strengthen the exemplary medico-social cooperation existing between the PRC and Mali.

Traore Receives Minister

AB152127 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Chinese Health Minister Cui Yueli, now on an 8-day visit to our country, was received in audience this morning by the head of state. Their talks centered on the exemplary cooperation between the two countries, in particular in the field of health. The head of state expressed the wish to see this South-South cooperation further strengthened in the interest of the Chinese and Malian peoples. Later, the Chinese health minister paid a courtesy call on his Malian counterpart, Prof Mamadou Dembele, as well as on Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation.

NIGER

Kountche Addresses Nation on 11th Anniversary

AB151618 Niamey Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Niger President Brigadier General Seyni Kountche's address to the nation in Niamey on 15 April 1985 on the 11th anniversary of the coming to power of the military in Niger — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear fellow countrymen and women, during my 1984 campaign evaluation tour, I informed you of the suspension of all public ceremonies and festivities until further notice. I renewed my appeal to each and every one of you on the need for more caution and sobriety in the daily management of public property. I did this as a duty, not because austerity is an end in itself but because the food prospects of our country do not give us the right to invest in ostentatious rejoicing or to waste our time and modest resources. Our decision emanates from the need for solidarity and it will be maintained until, God willing, the country's food situation is redressed. I have decided to devote most of this message to the food situation prevailing in our country. This 11th anniversary of the military takeover must kindle in every patriotic Niger national the spirit to assume the offensive in the distribution of foodstuffs, in the installation of stabilization stocks which must enable us to calmly traverse the difficult period between harvests, in the preparation of the agropastoral campaign, in the fight against desert encroachment, on all the fronts of this many-sided struggle for the economic and social recovery of our country and for the assertion of its identity and sovereignty.

First of all, let us discuss the operation of distribution of foodstuffs. Quite recently in Geneva, I had the opportunity to laud the formidable solidarity help the international community has given to Africa, particularly to the Sahel countries. Unfortunately — as I also said in Geneva — food aid does not always come to us at the right time. The aid program for the disaster areas began in our country in November 1984. This rapid takeoff was made possible thanks to the security stocks of the [word indistinct]. A machinery was set up and given the necessary logistic means. So far, 40,000 tons of food have been distributed. At this time when we are entering fully into the period between harvests, when large quantities of food expected from the international community are being received in all our districts, and when signs of the next rainy season begin to appear, the actions of distribution must be intensified through the hard work of our brave rural dwellers. In this connection, prefects must take all steps, in cooperation with the chiefs of the general staff, to make maximum use of all the transporation facilities in their regions. They have the full power to requisition all available trucks whether these belong to private individuals or to projects going on in their areas.

At this stage, I would like to pay a rousing tribute to the officers, noncommissioned officers, and soldiers who — since November — have been touring our country without any rest in order to fulfill the oath of the armed forces. I ask them to continue with their effort just as I ask the chiefs of the General Staff and the chairmen of the regional development councils to continue with their mission in the service of development.

As a final point concerning food, stabilization stocks will be established beginning 1 May 1985. Sixty-six thousand tons are now available. It must be understood that the sales of (?food) will be made to those who really need them. A machinery must be set up to foil the maneuvers of some traders who [words indistinct]. [Passage indistinct] We are now taking every step to make available the seeds for the next agricultural season. Meanwhile, I wish to recall how determinent the role of the cooperative bodies should be during this 1985 agricultural seasons; they must demonstrate their degree of responsibility, their organizational capacity, their sense of initiative, and their reliability. In any case, we hope that the 1985 rainy season will be in accordance with our hopes.

Let us praise Allah the Almighty with all our strength for the success of the next rainy season and let us prepare right now for the next rainy season. The cultivation of out-of-season crops has stood the test of time; its contribution to the growth of national food resources was really remarkable, although its organization needs to be improved which we are going to take care of. Let us bear in mind that whatever happens, and whatever the results of the next agricultural harvest, the cultivation of out-of-season crops will be continued, intensified, and propagated throughout the country wherever possible. Our people should be legitimately proud of this initiative, which has attracted a lot of attention and admiration from friendly countries and international institutions. [Words indistinct] were impressed by the correctness and credibility of our approach to food self-sufficiency. Let us try to make it a model for the Sahel, and Africa as a whole, in the search for better means of eliminating hunger.

Already steps are being taken so that by the end of September seeds for corn, wheat, potatoes, and vegetables will be made available at reasonable prices. I pay tribute to the countries and institutions, especially France and the European Development Fund [words indistinct] for the launching of the 1984 out-of-season crops, and continue to show support for our new rural development strategy. Our people are grateful to them.

The cultivation of out-of-season crops and the fight against desert encroachment are the two main complementary phases of the rehabilitation program we envisage. It is vital to our very existence. My tour of remote places in Zinder department drew attention to a tragedy going on in the Sahel. Rather than accepting it as fatalists, the desert's encroachment should be taken up as a challenge. The desert, my dear countrymen, is advancing at a great pace and we must react and react quickly in order to save our cities, villages and our land, and to save (?ourselves). Nearly 15,000 square kilometers of our territory is threatened annually by desert encroachment which renders fruitless any agricultural activity. To check the advance of the desert with timely action, we have decided to translate into concrete deeds the Maradi commitment. All the recommendations of this commitment will be gradually, methodically and carefully implemented. They concern ambitious and specific initiatives for the restoration of our environment. They also concern the drawing up and adoption of the master plan for the fight against desert encroachment.

The government decided on 5 April 1985 to implement an interim program of reforestation. I call upon the sense of patriotism of each Niger citizen for an effective and sustained general mobilization. The state, on its part, intends to do everything to promote the immediate implementation of this measure. About 350 million CFA francs have been voted for the creation and development of irrigation and sites for the cultivation of out-of-season crops. By judiciously combining the cultivation of foodstuffs and the fight against desert encroachment, we are undertaking a task that has a doubly salutary effect. [Passage indistinct] Thus, each development council at the local, regional and national level will, as from 3 August 1985, plant a tree which will be inspected regularly by the administrative and traditional authorities. The area will vary from 2 to 15 hectares per year. At the same time, regional and local councils, village and tribal councils will plant shrubs in the sand dunes where the sand threatens built-up areas. The yards of educational institutions, hospitals, training centers and administrative services should all be planted with trees by 3 August 1985.

A lot of effort has been spent to revive our economy. This revival will be irreversibly pursued because our country [words indistinct] global balance, because our economy ensures the cultural basis of a stable growth and a coherent development. The prime minister has been instructed to work for the achievement of total economic redress in each public establishment and in each of the sectors of the national economy. I want each and everyone to bear in mind that the sweat and sacrifices we are making today will create the basis of our happiness tomorrow; that of our children and our children's children and for future generations. To refuse to build today is to compromise the future and thus obliterate our history and our personality.

I am totally convinced of our determination, my dear countrymen, to assume the burden of our destiny, and I am also convinced that we will succeed if we begin right now to work hard and if each one will have a deep sense of respect for public property and the willingness to forget individual interests for the sake of concentrating on the collective interest. [passage indistinct]

NIGERIA

Illegal Aliens Ordered to Leave by 10 May

AB151515 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Foreigners in Nigeria without valid documents have been ordered to leave the country before the 10th of next month. The Ministry of Internal Affairs said in Lagos today that the government would take the necessary steps if the directive was not complied with. It said that as of mid-December more than 70,000 illegal immigrants were in the country. The ministry noted with regret that there was a general misconception of the provisions of the ECOWAS protocol on the movement of people. It explained that the protocol provided for only a 3-month stay without visa for ECOWAS citizens in possession of valid passports or traveling certificates. The ministry said that no self-respecting nation would fold its arms while noncitizens broke its laws with impunity.

A Radio Nigeria staff correspondent recalls that the problem of large numbers of illegal aliens has for long consituted a nutty problem for the Nigerian Government. Most such people were connected with criminal activities such as violent robberies and various forms of moral depravity, particularly licentious living. About 2 years ago the government expelled more than 1 million illegal aliens.

Armed Forces Thanked for Conduct In Exercises

AB121430 Lagos NAN in English 1202 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Calabar, April 12 (NAN) — The Cross River government has thanked the Nigerian Armed Forces for conducting its recent military exercise in the state without any loss of life.

Speaking on Wednesday in Calabar at a luncheon organised by the Operation Sea Dog task force commander, Brigadier A. Ahmed, The secretary to the Cross River government and head of service, Mr Askia Usoro said that reports reaching the government showed that there were negligible damage to property, which he estimated at 30,000 naira. He said that the economy of the state was stimulated by the inflow of money brought in by the soldiers, adding that Cross River should be considered when the venue for the next military exercise was being decided.

Mr Usoro said that although the influx of military men and their hardware initially created panic among some members of the public, the exercise had reassured Nigerians of the Federal Government's readiness to defend the country.

Brig Ahmed thanked the people and government of the state for their cooperation during the exercise in spite of the inconveniences it caused them.

ANGOLA

Delegation Leaves for Delhi Nonaligned Meeting

MB160704 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] A high-powered Angolan delegation left Luanda last night for New Delhi, where it will participate in an extraordinary session of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries' Coordination Bureau. This meeting is expected to focus on the prevailing situation in Namibia, the impasse reached during negotiations for the territory's independence, and a new strategy aimed at improving the situation.

The Angolan delegation is headed by the Minister of External Relations Afonso van Dunem Mbinda and includes the deputy minister for [words indistinct], (Teresa van Dunem), as well as Elisio de Figueiredo, the Angolan ambassador to the United Nations, and senior officials of the Ministry of External Relations.

Cape Verde Finance Minister in Luanda for Talks

MB120854 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] A Cape Verde delegation led by Osvaldo Lopes da Silva, minister of economy and finance, is in Luanda. This delegation has already had talks with Henrique Santos, minister of industry, and Herminio Escorcio, general director of the National Angolan Fuel Company.

KUP Reports UNITA Capture of Santa Maria

MB150806 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 15 Apr (KUP) — UNITA forces overtook with success the town of Santa Maria, 19 km northeast of Duque de Braganca, in Malanje Province. According to an official communique issued by UNITA's chief of staff last week, the town of Santa Maria was defended by a battalion of the 81st MPLA brigade, which was totally defeated during the clash with UNITA forces. UNITA armed forces captured important quantities of war materiel and military equipment in the town. Malanje Province, which borders Luanda Province, is rich in minerals, especially diamonds.

AFP: UNITA Claims 181 Angolan Soldiers Killed

AU141939 Paris AFP in English 1918 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] Lisbon, April 14 (AFP) — A total of 181 Angolan Government soldiers and four Cuban were killed in attacks by the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) on Thursday and Friday, the rebel organisation said in a statement issued here today.

Five of the rebels were killed, eight wounded and one was missing, the statement added.

It said that attacks were made on barracks at Muriege, in Lunda province, and at Massingo, in Malange Province.

Rebels also attacked a battalion of Army regulars north of Vila Cerca, in Luanda Province, and a convoy on the road from Lobito to Novo Redondo, in Benguela Province.

MOZAMBIQUE

Hungarian Official Arrives for Cooperation Talks

MB151919 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The deputy foreign minister of Hungary, Gabor Nagy, is in Mozambique for a 2-day working visit. He arrived in Maputo this morning and was received at the airport by the Mozambican deputy foreign minister, Daniel Mbanze. Mr Nagy's discussions with the Mozambican authorities will center mainly on the development of existing bilateral cooperation.

Hungary is currently helping Mozambique build an assembly plant for Icarus vehicles in Beira, including buses which are used by the urban public transport services. The Hungarians have also assisted in the construction of a factory that manufactures [words indistinct] which is also in the port city of Beira.

Machel Sends Birthday Greetings to Kim Il-song

MB121455 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] President Samora Machel has expressed the certainty that the ties of fraternal friendship, militant solidarity, and cooperation existing between Mozambique and the DPRK will provide a new impetus in the development of the two countries. This conviction is reiterated in a message sent to DPRK President Kim Il-song on his 73th birthday. We admire you as a competent revolutionary and tireless fighter for the freedom of the peoples, mankind's social progress, and peace in the world, stresses the message sent by President Samora Machel to his Korean counterpart.

NAMIBIA

Party Leaders Leave for Lusaka Meeting With SWAPO

MB151455 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1450 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Windhoek, April 15, SAPA — The leaders of three SWA/Namibia political parties have left Windhoek for talks in Lusaka with SWAPO's president, Mr Sam Nujoma, the SWABC reported today.

The leaders are Mr Justus Garoeb of the Damara Council, Mr Kuzeeko Kangueeji of a radical SWA National Union Faction, and Mr Hans Rohr of the Namibian Christian Democratic Party.

Before his departure, Mr Kangueeji said his party had received an invitation from SWAPO to participate in negotiations, but he declined to disclose details.

Mr Garoeb said the proposed discussions between the Damara Council and SWAPO were a continuation of negotiations begun in Lusaka earlier this year. He said earlier that his party was not prepared to enter into a formal alliance with SWAPO or any other SWA/Namibia political party, the SWABC reported.

A SWAPO spokesman said in Windhoek that after the Lusaka talks the three leaders would attend a meeting in New Delhi later this week of the Movement of Non-aligned Nations.

Meanwhile, the SWA/Namibian Multi-Party Conference reconvened in Windhoek today to discuss remaining problems concerning implementation of the MPC'S planned transitional government.

Proposals for the new government were submitted for consideration to the South African state president, Mr P.W. Botha, on March 25.

Weekend reports said Mr Botha was expected to state South Africa's response to the proposed SWA/Namibian administration on Thursday this week in parliament. He was also expected to make renewed calls for regional peace, including an appeal to SWAPO to join the new transitional administration until an ultimate internationally recognised settlement was achieved in SWA/Namibia.

MPC Resumes Sitting on Transitional Rule Proposal

MB150612 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Our representative in Windhoek reports that the possible installation of a transitional government in South-West Africa is likely to dominate the agenda when the Multiparty Conference [MPC] resumes its sitting in the city today. A spokesman for the MPC said attempts would be made to resolve the problems remaining in regard to the introduction of a transitional authority. He said this would enable the conference to avoid any delays in bringing the transitional government into being, should the South African Government approve the step.

The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, is expected to respond soon to the MPC proposals, with a view to the introduction of such an authority.

Paper Comments on NCC Rejection of Interim Rule

MB120614 Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans
4 Apr 85 p 6

[Editorial: "NCC Remains Stubborn"]

[Text] The declaration issued yesterday by the Executive Committee of the Namibia Council of Churches [NCC] in which they condemned the Multiparty Conference [MPC] plan for an interim government is yet another example of this body's bias.

Let us examine the "grounds" on which they condemn the MPC proposals for the institution of an interim government.

— The MPC has no democratic mandate from the voters, nor do they have the support of the people of the territory, therefore the MPC cannot speak for the majority of the people. That is what the Executive Committee of the NCC says.

Our first question is, how does this group of clerics know who has the majority of the people supporting them? Our second question is, why, after the elections of 1978, when the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA] had 82 percent of the votes behind it, did this same NCC refuse to accept the voice of the majority? The DTA had both the majority and the mandate.

Was it a bitter pill for the NCC? Why? If SWAPO had won that election, the NCC would not have objected.

— The fact that the MPC asked South Africa to continue helping in defense of the territory is proof that the MPC does not have the nation behind it. So says the NCC.

But what about SWAPO? Does not the fact that the Russians are keeping SWAPO going by supplying it with arms, prove that it does not have the trust and support of the populace, just as the Russian support for the MPLA (SWAPO's protecter in Angola) shows that the MPLA does not have the support of the Angolans?

And the crucial question for the NCC: If South African support for the peaceful parties is not wanted, why does the NCC not also reject the Marxist support being given to SWAPO?

That is how churches ought to be — fair to both sides. Not so?

— According to the NCC, the MPC, by their request to the South African state president, have strengthened their ties with dependence on that country in order to delay a political solution and independence for South-West Africa/Namibia.

The intentions of the MPC are precisely the opposite. It is because all the previous plans have failed that the MPC is trying to be helpful with a process which can be useful to any meaningful initiative — even Resolution 435.

— The NCC believes that the proposed "interim government" will prolong the agony and bloodshed, and that it will also worsen the economic decline of the territory.

But nothing is said about the blood being spilled by SWAPO. Not a word about the economic misery that SWAPO has helped to bring about in the country. Not a word about all the damage already caused by SWAPO.

Can anyone be more biased that that? We do not think so. There are few things on earth more one-sided than a church or group of churches possessed by an issue or when they are dominated by persons with un-churchly motives.

The NCC would greatly impress the general public in the territory, and would bring honor to its member churches, if, for once, it could give proof of impartiality. And would it not be a remarkable achievement for the church if for once the NCC could try to reconcile people? Reconcilliation is the message that the church is supposed to preach.

We are waiting for a hopeful sign from these church leaders.

SOUTH AFRICA

Botha Press Conference on Withdrawal From Angola

MB160925 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0919 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Cape Town, April 16, SAPA — The decision to disengage from southern Angola was taken because the political advantages outweighed the security risks involved, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said today.

At a press conference in Cape Town he explained the government's decision announced yesterday to withdraw its troops from southern Angola by the end of the week.

"We stand to gain more from disengaging from the border than the security risks involved in not completing the Joint Monitoring Commission [JMC]) process," he said.

There had been continuous discussion with the Angolans in the JMC and various other senior level meetings.

Although the anticipated ministerial talks did not materialise, the government's feeling was that the diminished risk in SWAPO attacks no longer justified the politically sensitive presence of South African troops on Angolan soil. The minister of defence concurred with this.

Mr Botha confirmed that in terms of the Lusaka agreement, the JMC would keep functioning for 30 days after the SADF [South African Defense Force] crossed the border into SWA/Namibia.

"By withdrawing, the responsibility now rests with Angola to see that SWAPO does not step up its activities," he said.

One of the problems which prompted the government into taking the political option was the fact that the Luanda government was consistently playing a two-way game.

President Dos Santos repeatedly claimed that South Africa was violating the Lusaka agreement and that he was looking forward to South Africa's departure.

"On the other hand his men in the JMC, when confronted in the field with the Luanda statements, either did not react or assured us there was no hurry to withdraw.

"What in effect happened was that there was a propaganda campaign being waged from Luanda while the men on the ground did not want us to withdraw.

The minister said he believed the result of the decision would be that international pressure would now shift back onto implementation of Security Council Resolution 435.

"Up to now it has been fairly evenly split on the two issues of 435 independence for SWA/Namibia and our presence in Angola," Mr Botha said.

International attention was also likely to focus on the Multi-Party Conference request for an interim government, he said.

He was not able to comment on the issue as the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, would deal with the matter personally in a statement to be made shortly.

South Africa and the United States remained steadfast in their view that the only obstacle to SWA/Namibian independence remained the presence of Cuban troops in Angola.

"We must have a withdrawal agreement before an independence plan can be implemented.

Mr Botha refused to be drawn on the possibility of a "regional" independence solution to circumvent the UN.

This was not a matter he was prepared to comment on at present, he said.

Pik Botha Appeals for Talks With Angola

MB151927 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has appealed to the Angolan Government to continue negotiating with South Africa on peace and stability and on the use of the Ruacana-Calueque Hydro-Electric Scheme for the benefit of the people of South-West Africa and Angola.

Mr Botha made the appeal in a statement issued in Cape Town when he announced that South African troops in southern Angola would be withdrawn before the end of the week. Mr Botha said that in accordance with the decision taken last November, South Africa remains prepared to negotiate at ministerial level with Angola on future steps to ensure peace on the border between South-West Africa and Angola after the Joint Monitoring Commission had completed its task.

Mr Botha expressed the hope that working relationship which has existed between the two governments over the past 16 months would serve as a basis for continued dialogue to resolve the problems of the region peacefully. The relationship has given rise, among other things, to five ministerial conferences.

Reportage on Plan To Repeal Marriage, Sex Laws

Badenhorst Committee Recommendation

MB151333 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1326 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Parliament, April 15, SAPA — Parliament has been advised to scrap the two laws prohibiting marriage and sex across the colour bar.

This follows an inquiry by the Badenhorst Committee, a joint select committee of all three houses of parliament, which tabled its report today and recommended that the Mixed Marriages Act and Section 16 of the Immorality Act, be repealed. The brief committee report was accompanied by a draft bill setting out the simplest form of repeal.

Another main feature of the report is that it found that the existing laws governing residential and educational separation were adequate to deal with the situation created by the repeal.

No specific recommendations were made regarding other legislation the repeal was likely to affect.

The committee also recommended that legislation was needed to legalise marriages which were invalid in terms of the prohibition of mixed marriages act.

After considering all the evidence before it, the committee chairman said they found that "the Prohibition of Marriages Act, 1949, and Section 16 of the Immorality Act, 1957, cannot be justified on scriptural or other grounds".

"The two measures are of a discriminatory nature in that they do not provide for the equal treatment of the various population groups, but single out one identifiable population group only," he said.

It recommended that parties to a mixed marriage be counselled by the marriage officer on the implications of such a marriage. "The committee is deeply aware that the place of residence of such a married couple is a sensitive matter in the South African community context," the report said.

They were convinced however that "existing legislation and practice, and particularly in regard to residential and educational rights and requirements, are capable by administrative means of allowing of the recommendation of racially mixed families."

The only object of repealing Section 16 of the Immorality Act was to remove the racial connotation from the act.

The President's Council should be requested to give attention to the question of soliciting for immoral purposes while the committee felt that the combatting of immorality should be directed as much at prevention as at punishment.

The committees terms of reference had been to investigate the "desirability" of repealing the measures, together with the "desirability" of adapting related legislation.

The committee decided that the evidence handed to it by the previous Badenhorst Committee made it unnecessary to call for further evidence.

The draft bill accompanying the report amends the Immorality Act, the Criminal Procedures Act and repeals the Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act in toto.

The Immorality Act is amended by deletion of the definition of "coloured" and "white" persons in Section 1 of the Act, totally repealing Section 16 and deleting Section 21, Subsection (2). It also amends Section 22 (A) to provide for seven years imprisonment for persons who keep brothels or solicit for sex between coloureds and whites.

The bill deletes reference to mixed illegal acts. It provides for a maximum r600 fine or three years imprisonment for illegal brothel and soliciting acts.

Reference to Section 16 of the Immorality Act is also scrapped from the Criminal Procedures Act.

Home Minister on Repeal

MB151505 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1456 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] House of Assembly, Apr 15, SAPA — The government has accepted the recommendations of the Badenhorst Committee that the Mixed Marriages Act and Section 16 of the Immorality Act be repealed. This was announced in the House of Assembly today by the minister of home affairs, Mr F.W. de Klerk.

The government also accepted the draft bill submitted by the Badenhorst Committee. "The continued ordering of own communities at social, educational and constitutional level will not be affected by the repeal of the relevant legislation," Mr de Klerk said. The government's precondition in this regard had therefore been met.

"No doubt is left in anybody's mind that the government's acceptance of this report will be considered of great importance. For many years this legislation was probably the most contentious legislation on the South African statute books."

The government was determined to finalise repealing legislation during the current session of Parliament.

Mr de Klerk said that parties which wanted to consult further on the matter should therefore do so immediately. "As far as the national party is concerned, urgent consultation will take place within the party structures."

The minister said that foreign countries had used the two measures against South Africa negatively without knowing the reasons for the legislation.

"Within the bounderies of our own country there are people who, for understandable reasons, are bitterly opposed to the prohibition of mixed marriages and Section 16 of the Immorality Act. On the other hand, the existing of these regulations were considered by many as important for the protection of group security and group identity and there exists, even now, strong opposition in certain quarters against repeal.

"For some time now the government has committed itself to the goal of removing discrimination. This is a matter of sincere concern for the government," the minister said.

There should be a distinction between the measures essential for the continued protection of group rights and identities, together with the maintenance of order, and others which, due to changed circumstances, did not contribute to them. The government was convinced that within this framework, which remained its policy, the measures could and should be repealed.

The government remained convinced that mixed marriages gave rise to social, housing and educational problems. "Insofar as these problems could have a detrimental effect on the community life of groups, effective measures do exist to protect communities against such consequences. As regards the individuals concerned in such marriages, it is preferable that the government should not interfere prescriptively with the intimate emotional lives of people."

This responsibility rested with parents, members of the family, the clergy and others who, within the family and community structures, found themselves in a position to give meaningful advice.

The government therefore strongly supported the recommendation that marriage partners receive counselling.

Repealing Section 16 of the Immorality Act had nothing to do with combating and preventing immorality and indecency. "The government is strongly opposed to all forms of immorality," Mr de Klerk said. For this reason the immorality act had been referred to the President's Council.

"The marriage relationship between the members of the opposite sexes are primarily private matters with strong religious and ethical considerations. The time has arrived for this matter to be removed from the political arena," Mr de Klerk said. He hoped this spirit and approach would be reflected in the debate on his budget vote.

Party Leaders Comment

MB151817 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Reaction to the statement by Mr de Klerk [on the repeal of the Mixed Marriages and Immorality Acts] and the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee has been received from political, religious, and business leaders.

The chairman of the committee which investigated the laws, the deputy minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Piet Badenhorst, said the laws had created tremendous practical problems in the country and had brought sadness and grief to the lives of innocent people.

The Progressive Federal Party spokesman on home affairs, Mr (Tian) van der Merwe, said the repeal of the laws was a small step on the long and difficult road to be followed to achieve race normality.

The Conservative Party spokesman on home affairs, Mr Daan van der Merwe, said it was pathetic to listen to the once mighty National Party, which indicated today that one of the cornerstones of separate development would be abolished. He added that the minister of home affairs was losing credibility by the day.

The New Republic Party spokesman on home affairs, Mr Brian Page, said the committee's recommendation should be implemented without delay as the country's image both at home and abroad could only be improved by positive actions. He said the acts had become symbols of discrimination.

The chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Representatives, the Reverend Allan Hendrickse, said there was still much that had to be changed, but that a start had to be made somewhere. He said it was the right of the individual to decide whom to marry or have relations with.

The chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said the repeal of the laws was a giant practical step away from discrimination.

The general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Dr Beyers Naude, told SAPA that although the white community might consider the repeal of the two laws as a radical step in the new direction, it would make every difference to the basic issue of political rights for blacks.

The national publicity secretary of the United Democratic Front Mr Terror Lekota, said in statement to SAPA that freedom of sexual association was not a basic issue, that was why the government had chosen these laws.

The chief executive of ASSCOM [Association of Chambers of Commerce], Mr Raymond Parsons, told the South African Broadcasting Corporation that by promptly accepting the recommendations of the committee the government had given a additional strong weapon to the opponents of disinvestment here and overseas.

Residence, Amenities Laws Retained

MB160604 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] The minister of home affairs and national education, Mr F.W. de Klerk, says government support for the recommendations that Section 16 of the Immorality Act and the Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act should be scrapped is not a political gimmick.

Mr de Klerk said in a television program that the decision to repeal the measures was a direct result of the intense debate on the issue held, among others, in Afrikaner church circles. The decision was an attempt to move away from discriminatory measures, while cordial relations and group identity should be maintained.

The minister said he wanted to state categorically that other legislation with racial connotations would not be affected by the decision. Legislation such as the Group Areas Act and the Separate Amenities Act would not be scrapped, as these laws enabled each group to maintain its own identity and community life.

Own residential areas and schools should be retained as they formed the basis of group identity. Turning to the consequences of mixed marriages, Mr de Klerk said the problem could arise of a father, mother, and children being classified as belonging to different groups. In his opinion, this would not present an insurmountable problem. He rejected the idea of mixed residential areas, and said work was in progress to provide each group with its own residential area and separate amenities.

The United States says it welcomes the South African decision to lift restrictions on interracial relations and marriage, but adds that much more needs to be done. A State Department spokesman, Mr Bernard Kalb, told newsmen in Washington that the South African decision was a step in the right direction. He added that the laws concerned some of the more odious aspects of apartheid and that their demise would not be mourned.

In more reaction to Mr de Klerk's statement, a spokesman for the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference said in Pretoria that the scrapping of the two laws would only be window-dressing. He added that such a step remained meaningless until the cornerstones of apartheid — the Population Registration Act and the Group Areas Act — were repealed.

The moderator of the Nederduits Gereformeede Kerk [Dutch Reformed Church], Rev (Machubi Lebone), said he welcomed the decision to repeal the laws. Speaking in Kimberley, he said the church had been working for years for the abolition of the legislation.

New Zealand Correspondents Break From Lange Tour

MB120543 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] The political correspondent of the New Zealand Television Service, Mr (Bill Ralston), says the South African point of view is important if one has to place the statements of the New Zealand prime minister, Mr David Lange, concerning South Africa in their proper perspective.

Mr (Ralston) was giving reasons in Johannesburg why he and five other New Zealand journalists had broken away from Mr Lange's touring party in Botswana and traveled to Cape Town where they interviewed the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, and the president of the Rugby Board, Dr Danie Craven.

Mr (Ralston) said that during his visit to various African countries Mr Lange had spoken openly about his government's attitude toward South Africa. The interviews with Mr Pik Botha and Dr Craven were aimed at informing the New Zealand public of the other side of the picture.

In Harare Mr Lange has accused Mr Botha of singing a song of hate against him during his tour of African countries. Among other things Mr Botha said that he regarded Mr Lange's visit as a nonevent, that it was clear that the present New Zealand Government had made up its mind about the situation in South Africa without looking into it, and that its opinion was based on prejudice and not on fact.

Umtata Reports Lange Response

MB120728 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] New Zealand's Prime Minister David Lange has issued a stinging attack on South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha. The New Zealand leader is on an official visit to Zimbabwe and from the capital Harare we have this report from Capital's Howard Barrell.

[Barrell] Briefing newsmen last night Lange said he was deeply disappointed with a group of New Zealand journalists who had broken with his party and chosen to go to South Africa to interview Foreign Minister Botha. Lange suggested the trip had been organized by journalists motivated by the (?offer) of what he called some form of consideration.

Botha had sung a hymn of hate against him and Lange calls Botha a gentleman whose line of vituperation is quite unique. Lange described Botha as a man who is in power in South Africa because he has committed himself to upholding the regime which denies four-fifths of the people of South Africa the vote. Lange added that he had not been surprised at Botha's attack on him before the journalists. In fact, says Lange, I would be shocked if such a man endorsed any [word indistinct] on anything.

Kennemeyer Commission Told of Third Police Vehicle

MB151120 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0900 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The Kennemeyer commission has heard that there were more police officers at the time of the Uitenhage shootings than officially reported. A township resident has told Judge Donald Kennemeyer that he saw a third Casspir armored vehicle whose occupants fired shots in the direction of people fleeing the shootings.

(Maziwe Bafana), who says he watched the shooting from his house, says a third Casspir had been parked near church just off the main road on the Langa side, and that two or three of the men on the third Casspir fired across the main road in the direction of people running away from the police fire from the other two Casspirs.

In addition, he has told the inquiry he saw a white truck and a land Rover approach the scene of the shootings.

Arson, Violence, 1 Death Reported in East Cape

MB151953 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1944 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Pretoria, April 15, SAPA — Black man died after he tried unsuccessfully to dissuade a crowd from stoning a police riot patrol in the eastern Cape, police in Pretoria said tonight. A police spokesman told SAPA the man died after the crowd attacked him. He had tried to stop the crowd from stoning the patrol in Lingalishwe, Craddock.

Police in Lingalishwe dispersed stone-throwing crowds with tear smoke and an 18-year-old youth was arrested on charges of public violence, the spokesman added. In the same area, about 300 people stoned the house of a black member of the SAP [South African Police].

In the township of Kwazikele, about 100 people were dispersed by tear smoke, rubber bullets and shotgun fire. There were no reported injuries or arrests, the spokesman said.

At Fort Beaufort in the eastern Cape, there were two incidents of arson in the local black area — both on private homes. One house was "totally gutted," the spokesman said. Crowds were dispersed with shotgun fire. There were no reported injuries or arrests.

At Langa in the eastern Cape, a police vehicle was stoned while attending to the looting of a delivery van, the spokesman said. Police used tear smoke to desperse the crowd. There were no reported injuries or arrests.

At Kwathema on the east Rand, a joint police/military patrol was stoned, and police used tear smoke to disperse the crowd. There were no reported injuries or arrests.

At White City, Jabavu, Soweto, a beer hall was looted and a post office vehicle was gutted by fire after being set alight. Two members of the local development board were "slightly injured" when board offices were stoned. Police did not intervene. No one was arrested.

Further Reports

MB160848 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0835 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Pretoria, April 16, SAPA — A young man died and a black policeman was seriously injured last night after incidents of rioting in various townships, police in the eastern Cape reported today. Police and troops continued to patrol various townships, a spokesman in Pretoria said. He added, however, that "the situation appears to be easing, although there are still elements instigating arson, stonethrowing and murder."

The spokesman said a policeman in Langa, who shot at a group of about 400 looting a supermarket, apparently hit one person who was dragged away by his fellows. Police also used tearsmoke, rubber bullets and birdshot on the group and later found the body of a 20-year-old man. They suspected he had been shot during the incident, the spokesman said. He was the first fatality since weekend rioting and clashes with police in the eastern Cape left at least seven people dead.

In Motherwell, the body of an unconscious policeman who had been attacked by about 20 people was found late yesterday by a police patrol, the spokesman said. He added that the policeman was in a serious condition in a Port Elizabeth hospital.

Petrol Bombs were thrown at two private homes in nearby Kwazakele and at the Victoria West home of a policeman, who fired pistol shots at his attackers, the spokesman said. An isolated incident of stonethrowing was reported from Alexandra, near Johannesburg, the spokesman said. He said there were no injuries or arrests.

Black Councillor Blames Leftists for Unrest

MB160814 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] The president of the Urban Councils Association of South Africa, Mr (Steve Kegame), says there is no doubt that most of the unrest in the black communities of South Africa is stirred up by leftist groups. Mr (Kegame) has told a congress being held near Pretoria that his council is tired of houses being burned down, of innocent people being shot dead, and of black people being murdered by other blacks.

He says the onus rests on responsible black people to make the leftists aware of the fact that their action could lead to years of suffering, violence, economic collapse, and unneccessary deaths in South Africa. Mr (Kegame) says the Urban Councils Association is prepared to negotiate with leftist groups provided that they are willing to listen to the standpoints of the council.

Buthelezi Says Youths Intimidating Moderates

MB150757 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The chief minister of kwaZulu, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, says it is obvious that young people are being used to intimidate moderate blacks in the eastern Cape townships, which are being torn by unrest.

Speaking in an SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio program, Chief Buthelezi said that, despite his concern regarding the use of children in unrest situations, he wanted to point out that young people did have a very valid role to play in black society.

Chief Buthelezi said he was really concerned about the future of black society if the use of children as tools of intimidation against their own families was to become a regular pattern for any length of time.

Turning to the question of the aim of the unrest being to make the country ungovernable, he said that some people had stated this as their avowed strategy. He believed, however, that there were very few advantages for blacks in such a strategy.

The mayor of the (Khayenandi) township near Port Elizabeth, Mr (Tamsanqa Linde), said in the program that the main cause for the present unrest was that people did not really understand what was happening in the townships, or how things were done there.

He said he refused to follow the example of those councillors who had resigned because he had a mandate from the people and that through this he was expected to hold his position and to do what he could for them in times as difficult as the present.

Mr (Linde) said the majority of the people in the black residential areas were not in favor of the unrest. He added that the black people were gearing themselves to do something to maintain law and order. He did not elaborate.

Prof Lawrence Schlemmer of the University of Natal said he doubted if black adults could do anything about their children's involvement in the unrest. The reason was that adults were not organized into any particular political parties or groupings, whereas children operated as groups and gangs, thus presenting a more forceful presence than the adults.

Case Against 16 UDF Members Postponed to 25 Apr

MB151210 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The case against 16 supporters of the United Democratic Front who are appearing in the Durban regional magistrate's court on charges of high treason has been postponed until 25 April.

Legal council for the 16, Mr (Leonard Gearing), insisted that charge sheets be issued against the accused, who have been in detention now for longer than 4 months.

The magistrate, Mr (T.R. Blunden), instructed the prosecution to accede to the demand as soon as possible. Mr (Blunden) said that he was awaiting judgment by the Supreme Court on an application by 8 of the 16 for bail before ruling on application for bail by the other 8.

Commission To Study Rural Black Education

MB151110 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0853 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Pretoria, April 15, SAPA — The upgrading of education for the more than one million black pupils at rural schools is to be investigated by a committee appointed by government, it was announced today.

Chairman of the task group, the Department of Education Training [DET] Dr Dirk Meiring, said he expected final proposals on a new education blueprint to be submitted to the cabinet by July next year.

"This concerns the upgrading of the present education system," Dr Meiring said, adding, however: "We are not planning any radical changes."

He outlined a scheme aimed at rationalising and centralising structures and facilities at the country's almost 7,000 schools situated in small towns, and on farms and mines.

"There is a backlog in rural education," Dr Meiring said. He mentioned that last year, only 15 per cent of the 126,000 pupils who began their schooling in 1978 had reached standard five. Rural schools serve 1.12 million pupils and are operated by some 29,000 teachers, according to the DET.

Dr Meiring said that as a form of relief to the education backlog, the DET recently introduced curricula for the first two years of high school at 90 rural schools.

"But now we must look at the system on a macro level," he said.

The DET group consists of 11 representative bodies, including the African Teacher's Association, the South African Agricultural Union and the Chamber of Mines.

Squatters Begin Moving Voluntarily from Crossroads

MB151054 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1018 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Cape Town, April 15, SAPA — The first group of more than 12,000 cathedral squatters, led by Mr Mali Hoza, started moving voluntarily from Crossroads to a site-and-service scheme adjacent to Khayelitsha today.

A spokesman for the chief commissioner of the Department of Cooperation and Development for the Western Cape said Mr Hoza and his followers were the first of six squatter groups who had accepted the governments offer and would be moving to the new site, 2.6km from Crossroads, during the next few weeks.

It is initially expected that 30 to 50 families will be assisted daily to move. If required, squatters are given assistance to demolish their structures but many had done so on their own accord, the spokesman said. They are allocated sites under the site-and-service scheme, their building materials and personal possessions are transported free of charge, and members of the family are taken by bus to the new site.

Families at present sharing a shack will each be allocated an individual site at Khayelitsha.

On arrival at Khayelitsha, families are taken to their sites and their documents are endorsed. The endorsement grants them the right to live on the sites for 18 months, and work in the Cape Peninsular and vicinity.

Temporary shelter in tents is provided on each site and residents can immediately start erecting structures. Building material is also available at low costs should it be required.

Arrivals on site are given soup and rations for one day. First aid services are available at a clinic, and provision has been made for the care of children who might get lost. A mobile public address system is used to direct residents to the available facilities.

A subsidised bus service will be provided at regular intervals from tomorrow. This service will be extended as the number of families increases.

Rent of the services sites is R12.50 a month and will only come into operation one month after the site has been occupied.

The first 20 families on site have already begun erecting their structures.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Urges Economic Cooperation With Angola

MB151840 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kaunda, tonight said Zambia and Angola should continue to work together to defeat the economic problems which have been brought about by the world recession.

Dr Kaunda, who was speaking at State House when visiting Angolan Defense Minister Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha called on him, said there was need for both countries to adopt a common approach to the economic matters which concerned them. President Kaunda welcomed the Angolan delegation, saying he was greatful to President Eduardo dos Santos for sending them on the visit, which was intended to bring the two countries closer.

ZIMBABWE

Minister Mangwende Leaves for Nonaligned Meeting

MB160818 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Comrade witness Mangwende, left Harare for New Delhi, India, yesterday, to attend a 4-day extraordinary ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned countries.

The meeting has been convened to review the Namibian independence issue. A foreign affairs spokesman said the meeting will start on Thursday, 18 April.

Munangagwa on Cooperation With Security Officials

MB140613 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] The minister of state for security, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, has urged Zimbabweans to be security conscious towards the general election and cooperate with law enforcement agents in the fight against dissidents. Comrade Munangagwa reminded Zimbabweans that bandits succeed where there is lack of cooperation between the people and the security forces. He said the government has been able to get on top of the security situation and stayed there largely because of the contribution of the masses. The minister pointed out that dissidents have changed their tactics in order to circulate among the people.

Talking of stock theft, Comrade Munangagwa said antipoaching units had been established in some parts of the country to curb the menace. He appealed to the public to come forward with ideas on how poaching and stock theft can be solved.

Shamuyarira Comments on Communications, BBC

MB150733 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] At the end of this year African countries will be able to communicate directly without having to go through London or Paris. This was revealed by the minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, when he spoke on the Zimbabwe Television, ZTV, program "The Nation" last night. Comrade Shamuyarira said such communications had been made possible through earth satellite stations being built under the pan-African telecommunications program.

The minister explained that the posts and telecommunications corporation, PTC, is installing automatic telephone exchanges to reduce inefficiency and improve services in Zimbabwe. He admitted that the telephone system in the country is not as efficient as he would like it to be, partly because of old equipment and damage to underground cables by lightning and rains. Comrade Shamuyarira said there will be no need for Zimbabwe to rely on South African services, when the earth station being deployed has been commissioned in June.

The minister said his ministry would in future like to insure that foreign correspondents based in Harare have better access to the country's leaders. Comrade Shamuyarira said he was happy that the producer and presenter of a BBC program, "Panorama," David Lomax, was dismissed by his organization. Lomax wrote and presented an article with a distorted picture about events in Zimbabwe, and the Zimbabwean high commission in London complained about it. Comrade Shamuyarira added that foreign correspondents who falsify facts and campaign against Zimbabwe will be dealt with.

Officials At Reception on Kim Il-song Birthday

MB140552 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 13 Apr 85

[Text] Several government officials and members of the diplomatic corps last night attended a reception in Harare to mark the 73d birthday of the great leader of the DPRK, Comrade Kim Il-song. Speaking at the occasion, the minister of health said Zimbabwe had noticed with much admiration the efforts the DPRK makes in building their country. Comrade Sekeremayi commended the DPRK for assisting Zimbabwe during the liberation war and after independence. He said ZANU-PF cadres were trained in Korea, and Korea has provided military hardware to Zimbabwe and trained part of our defense forces, the militia, which are fighting reactionary forces and dissidents. Comrade Sekeremayi expressed the hope that negotiations for the reunification of the two Koreas will succeed one day.

Speaking at the same occasion, the DPRK ambassador to Zimbabwe, Comrade Li Zun-ok, commended the great leader, Kim Il-song, for his devotion to the freedom and (?liberation) of the people and the victory of the cause of socialism.

ZANU-PF Official Attacks ZAPU Alliance

MB150746 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The ZANU-PF deputy political commissar for Harare Province, Comrade (Tanheke Govere), says the minority party alliance planned for the forthcoming general election by ZAPU is a gimmick. Addressing a rally in the (Mugodowe) district in Highfield, Harare, yesterday, Comrade (Govere) said the alliance is aimed at hoodwinking socialists into voting for ZAPU, so that it can become a dictatorship based on capitalism.

He said while the minority parties want to fight the election, they have nothing to offer as an alternative to what the ruling party is doing for the people. Comrade (Govere) pointed out that the planned alliance wants to deprive Zimbabweans of their freedom and independence gained through blood, sweat, and tears during the liberation struggle.

Official Warns Minority Parties on Meetings

MB150833 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Zimbabweans have been called upon to guard against minority parties which hold meetings during the night. The call was made by the deputy minister of defense responsible for paramilitary training, Comrade William Ndangana, when addressed a rally at (Chisumbanji) in Manicaland at the weekend. Comrade Ndangana reminded minority parties that they have a right to hold meetings, but said such meetings should not be held under cover of darkness.

ZANU-PF Urges Better Relations With Farmers

MB150838 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The ZANU-PF chairman for Mashonaland West Province, Comrade Alexio Mudzingwa, has called for better relations between the ruling party and commercial farmers. Addressing a meeting at Karoi Country Club recently, Comrade Mudzingwa said improved relations will provide a sound base for national development. He urged commercial farmers to avoid using politically insulting language when addressing their workers, because such language leads to a reduction in productivity.

Comrade Mudzingwa, who is also the deputy minister of energy, water resources, and development, said dissidents have been disrupting development in Mashonaland West Province. He urged the people to report the presence of dissidents to the authorities as soon as they are sighted.

19 April Designated as Armed Forces Day

MB150815 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The government has decided that 19 April every year will be Armed Forces Day, on which the army will display its units and hardware. The disclosure was made by the minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, when he spoke on the Zimbabwe Television, ZTV, program "The Nation" last night.

Comrade Shamuyarira said the first display of this kind will be on Friday. He explained that the display, which will be part of independence celebrations, will not be detrimental to the country's security because the army will know what to display and what not to display. The minister added that the display will instill confidence into the nation, and drive fear into the country's enemies.